

## European diplomats arrested by Afghans

QUETTA, Pakistan (AFP) — Afghan security forces have arrested three European diplomats, Afghan Consul General Haji Abdul Khaliq said here Saturday, denying earlier reports that the trio had been kidnapped. Mr. Khaliq said the diplomats were taken into custody by security personnel in the Afghan border town of Spin Boldak after they illegally crossed into southern Kandahar province from Pakistan's Baluchistan province Friday. The three were identified as Jack Dodds of Britain, Gert Piening of the Netherlands and Stephen Elbert of Germany, all drug liaison officers. They were found some 20 kilometres inside Afghanistan taking photographs, the Afghan diplomat told reporters. Mr. Khaliq said investigations were continuing to try to determine whether the diplomats were on an espionage mission inside Afghanistan. Denying an earlier report from diplomatic and official Pakistani sources here Friday that the three were kidnapped by the Spin Boldak region, who said the three were all safe and in custody. "They were not abducted, they were arrested," he said.

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## 6 Yemenis killed in election violence

SANAA (AFP) — Six people, including two election candidates, were shot and killed in the town of Zohra near the western port of Hodeida during clashes between two leading political parties, police said Saturday. They were the first election-related murders since the start of the campaign on April 18. The killings occurred Thursday during an armed clash between members of the two main parties entering lists for Tuesday's legislative election, the first balloting for a unified Yemeni parliament since North and South Yemen became one country in May 1990.

## Copt killed in Upper Egypt

ASSIUT (AFP) — Muslim fundamentalists stabbed to death a teenage Christian Coptic student and seriously wounded another in the Upper Egyptian city of Assiut, an extremist stronghold, police said. They said the incident occurred when three men lay in wait for students who were leaving their technical school and attacked two with knives, killing one and wounding the other before fleeing. The assailants were clad in the long white shirtdresses usually worn by fundamentalists, said police.

## Ex-general shot in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Gunmen shot and wounded retired Algerian General Kamel Abdul Rahim Saturday as he left Rouiba, 20 kilometres east of Algiers, the official news agency APS said. Mr. Abdul Rahim, until he retired in 1988, was commander of naval forces. APS said between four and six gunmen attacked the general, hitting him twice in the body. The general, aged 58, is one of the most senior officers to be attacked in 14 months of violence blamed on Muslim fundamentalists. He was taken to hospital.

## Masoud rocketed during exercise

JABAL-UL SARAJ, Afghanistan (AFP) — Afghan Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud and several senior military staff narrowly escaped death Saturday when two long-range missiles fired by anti-government forces exploded just metres away. Mr. Masoud was visiting a military base at Jabal-ul Saraj, about 65 kilometres north of Kabul, when the rockets landed near his operations headquarters. The minister was personally supervising an operation in which defence ministry officials claimed 3,000 fighters from Prime Minister-designate Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezbi-Islami faction had defected to Mr. Masoud's forces.

## Tunisia's Communist Party changes name

TUNIS (R) — The 56-year-old Communist Party of Tunisia has changed its name to the Movement of Renovation. The change was announced after an extraordinary meeting which ended Friday night. Mohammad Harmel, outgoing secretary general, was unanimously reelected. The change received the blessing of Tunisia's ruling party the Rassemblement Constitutionnel Democratique, represented at the closing session by its Secretary General Chedli Neffati.

## Egypt, S. Arabia plan joint exercises

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and Saudi Arabia will stage regular joint military manoeuvres and are considering joint defence manufacturing projects, Egyptian defence sources said Saturday. Both countries are actively considering how to revive a short-lived military alliance broken off in 1979 when Egypt made peace with Israel. A decision on holding joint manoeuvres every six months was made during last week's visit to Saudi Arabia by Egyptian Defence Minister Lieutenant-General Mohammad Hussein Al Tantawi, the sources said. Gen. Tantawi also visited a Saudi defence factory. Earlier this year, senior Saudi defence officials visited Egypt's defence factories, which produce a variety of advanced armaments including jet fighters, missiles, tanks and munitions.

# Arab teams head for bilaterals amid mixed reactions at home

## Combined agency dispatches

JORDANIAN, SYRIAN and Lebanese peace negotiators left for Washington Saturday to attend the delayed ninth round of Arab-Israeli peace talks scheduled to resume Tuesday.

The 14-member Jordanian team is led by Abdul Salam Majali. Dr. Majali flew to London Friday to brief His Majesty King Hussein, who is vacationing in England.

Palestinian negotiators, who form a joint delegation with Jordan, are expected to leave Monday, amid deepening Palestinian division over continuing the peace process unless Israel makes concessions.

At least two of the 14 Palestinian delegates have refused to attend the Washington talks.

The Syrian delegation left Damascus for Washington Saturday afternoon via Paris. The Lebanese foreign ministry said some low-ranking members of Lebanon's team also left Saturday, and delegation head Suhail Shamma was scheduled to leave Sunday.

The four Arab parties involved in the peace talks with Israel agreed Wednesday to resume negotiations after a four-month

delay. The 16-month-old talks broke down after Israel expelled 400 Islamic fundamentalists from the occupied territories in December.

Jordanian delegates said they would continue discussions with Israel on a joint draft agenda charting future peace negotiations.

The accord is the most visible sign of progress in the otherwise stumbling 18-month-old peace process.

"We will continue with our agenda," said a Jordanian negotiator before flying to Washington. "We hope some progress would be made to enable us to start substantial talks."

The joint draft agenda foresees an eventual peace treaty between Jordan and Israel as part of a comprehensive Arab settlement.

Jordan is seeking to rework the document to plug loopholes which it feared could be used by Israel to set precedents and weaken Palestinian-Israeli talks — especially on the final status of Jerusalem, officials say.

Syria's official Tishrin newspaper meanwhile warned of the collapse of the peace process and a loss of U.S. credibility if Israel's "policy of obstruction" is allowed to continue.

Tishrin said the Arab decision to resume the talks was not taken easily and required "intense contacts and consultations with the U.S. administration."

The Arabs "expect real progress from the ninth session (of negotiations) as well as an effective American role which is in harmony with the commitments it gave," Tishrin added.

The international community must reject the Israeli position or see the ninth round become "a maze" that will lead to "the collapse of the entire peace process and U.S. credibility," it warned.

The Arabs plan to "immediately raise the basic issues, starting with a withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory," referred to in U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, it said.

If Israel continues to "defy U.N. Security Council resolutions," the Arabs will have no choice but to "ask the U.S. administration to implement its commitments and guarantees," it said.

In Washington, members of the State Department's "peace team" met Friday with representatives of the Israeli delegations to the Middle East peace talks.

Team leader Edward Djerejian, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, did not participate in the consultations, but other team members met with the Israeli representatives twice during the day.

"We don't have any firm schedule for meetings with the other delegations at this time," the spokesman said, "but we hope to confer with all of the parties before the talks resume on April 27."

In occupied Jerusalem, Palestinian leader Faisal Hussein angrily told his many critics Saturday there was no better option for the Palestinians than a return to the peace talks.

Mr. Hussein defended his backing of the negotiations in a shouting match with the wives of expelled Muslim fundamentalists and later before a sceptical crowd of Jerusalem merchants.

"Some people have asked me to withdraw from the talks," Mr.

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Expellees await return home, page 2

Christopher: Meaningful Palestinian self-government possible, page 5

## PLO lists 'assurances' package

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has made public seven-point package of assurances which it said brought the Palestinians back to peace talks with Israel but accused the Jewish state of trying to avoid implementing them.

It said the assurances were "positive achievements" and appealed to Washington and Moscow as co-sponsors of the peace process to intervene strongly to ensure that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin fulfilled them.

"At this crucial moment, respect for what was agreed upon by the (peace) conference's co-sponsors requires that they take a strong stand towards the Rabin government's attempts to avoid the issues ... or escape their practical implementation," a statement carried by the Palestinian news agency Wafa said.

It said one of the assurances the Palestinians received was the speeding up of the return of nearly 400 Palestinians whose expulsion by Israel to South Lebanon in December caused suspension of the peace talks.

However, Mr. Rabin stuck on Thursday to an earlier proposal to allow 101 of the expellees to return immediately and the rest in stages by the end of the year and he was not obliged to make further gestures.

The PLO is under criticism from some Palestinians who say it agreed to return to the ninth round of talks in Washington next Tuesday without having achieved any of the concessions it had demanded from Israel.

The statement listed for the first time the assurances which the PLO said the Palestinians won. It called them "achievements which cannot be minimised or ignored" and said they were the

fruit of Arab support and the PLO's "wise and firm policy."

"The seven assurances were: — "Correcting the make-up of the Palestinian delegation to include sons of Jerusalem in the negotiating team."

— "No resort (by Israel) to the policy of deportations in the future."

— "Securing the return of a number of previous deportees (exiled by Israel before December)."

— "Speeding up the return of the December deportees."

— "A commitment, with the conference co-sponsors playing an effective role, to reduce the sufferings of our people living under occupation and the blockade (banning them from entering Israel)."

— "Reaffirmation of U.N. resolutions 242 and 338 (which state

(Continued on page 5)

## Sudan accuses Egypt of coup plot

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudanese leader Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir accused Egypt Saturday of plotting with Sudanese opposition groups to overthrow his government.

The military leader told a news conference a number of Egyptian-trained saboteurs sent to blow up installations in Khartoum and elsewhere had been detained but did not specify how many.

Gen. Bashir said Egypt provided Sudanese plotters with 12 helicopters to fly them to Sudan to blow up installations and seize power in Khartoum.

He said Egypt trained the plotters and provided them with 500 revolvers with silencers, Sudanese army uniforms, night sight equipment and ammunition.

"While Egypt had been accusing Sudan of exporting terrorism to other countries including

Egypt without providing any proof, we now have proof of the Egyptian government's training of people to commit terrorist acts in Sudan," Gen. Bashir said.

As outlined by the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA), the invaders, equipped and trained by Egypt, would be drawn from banned political parties and southern rebels. Some troops from northern Sudan would help.

"The invading troops will be transported by a foreign warship, and then Egyptian planes will be used to position them," SUNA said, quoting a press statement by "a senior security source."

In Cairo, military spokesman Taymour Al Zohairi said he could not comment but would ask his superiors. At the Foreign Ministry, spokesman Nagy Al Ghatrifi said: "I have absolutely no idea what you're talking about."

An aide to Jaafar Numeiri, a former Sudanese president living in exile in Cairo, denied his group was involved.

"Egypt does not allow us to plan anti-Sudanese government activity in Egypt," said Mohammad Abdul Rahman. "Neither our group nor any other group as far as I know was planning any such coup attempt."

Linked by the Nile River, Egypt and Sudan have alternated between war and peace since antiquity. Relations have been relatively good since Sudan, Africa's largest country, gained independence in 1956 as combined British-Egyptian rule ended.

But they deteriorated when Brigadier Omar Hassan Bashir overthrew a democratic civilian administration on June 30, 1989. Cairo charges that Sudan is training Islamic extremists in Iranian-

(Continued on page 5)

## Yeltsin issues last appeal to voters

MOSCOW (Agencies) — President Boris Yeltsin, gambling his future on a nationwide referendum, made a final appeal to Russians Saturday to put aside economic woes and give him their support for a "breakthrough to the future."

In a speech released ahead of its broadcast less than an hour before the polls open in the Russian Far East, he said he wanted the referendum result to "break through the mighty dam which has been constructed by opponents of Russian reforms."

"My ability to carry on with the course of reforms will depend entirely on how you vote on April 25. Your choice will decide what the president can and cannot do," Mr. Yeltsin said.

He said the most important questions on the ballot were number one and four, which polls

predict he will probably win. They ask voters whether they have confidence in the president and whether they want early elections to parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin, accused by his opponents of planning a coup if he wins, said he would "follow the principle of constitutionality, relying on the will of the people," whichever way the voting went.

But he made clear he wanted to push ahead with a wholesale shakeup of Russia's political system, particularly the all-powerful Congress of People's Deputies.

"Your votes for the president will be seen as your backing for a new constitution," he said.

"We must ensure that no single state organ, no single leader, whatever his high rank, can ever again concentrate all powers in his hands. Otherwise the ghost of dictatorship will continue to hover over Russia," he said.

"Russia and the Russians do not need a congress of one thousand people, which meets whenever and for as long as it likes and which has the right to decide any questions."

Voters Sunday go to the polls to answer four questions on support for the 62-year-old Russian leader, approval of market reforms and on early presidential and legislative elections.

In a full-page interview published in the parliamentary newspaper Rossiyskaya Gazeta, Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov accused Yeltsin of attempting to impose a dictatorship.

The goal of Mr. Yeltsin's team, Mr. Khasbulatov said, was to implement a "savage, criminal,

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As the dust settles, expect more chaos, page 4

## 100,000 could soon die in Sudan

PARIS (AP) — Nearly 100,000 people left homeless from civil war in southern Sudan could soon starve to death without help from the international community, a relief group says. International Action Against Hunger called for the effort so that "a drama comparable to that in Somalia doesn't repeat itself in silence." The group said that after a fact-finding mission, it has launched an emergency programme to provide food and medical care to children in the region. The 100,000 are scattered in the camps Ashwa, Ame and Atapi in southern Sudan, after fleeing the advance of government forces on the towns of Kopoeta, Torit, Bor and Kongor last year, the group said. Fighting "has prevented the delivery of food and humanitarian aid for the past four months," the group, known by its French initials AICF, said in a statement. The homeless "will be decimated by famine" without help, it said. The United Nations estimates 350,000 people have died from war and famine in the past two years. 1.5 million lives are threatened and two million people are displaced. Another round of peace talks is planned Monday in Nigeria between the rebels, led by John Garang, and the military government of President Omar Hassan Al Bashir.

# King hopes for breakthrough in talks, but warns of abyss

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said Friday he thought the Middle East peace talks were close to a breakthrough, but warned that if the Arab-Israeli conflict was not settled swiftly the region would "slide towards an abyss."

Interviewed in London on the prospects for next week's resumed talks between Israeli and Arab leaders, King Hussein told Sky News: "I believe we are close to a breakthrough and I really hope I will be justified."

He said that people on both sides of the divide now felt it was up to them to resolve their problems rather than relying on outside agencies.

"There are too many pressing problems in every aspect of life and too many challenges and too much suffering, too much anger that grows and grows, and despair."

"So if it is not resolved now I think that we will be sliding towards an abyss," King Hussein said.

In an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), King Hussein said that Jerusalem was "far too important to hundreds of millions of people throughout the world" to be considered "the domain of one or the other of the parties concerned."

The Holy City should become "the essence of peace" in the region, he said.

The Palestinian delegation has shown "great courage" in agreeing to participate in the talks at a time of "intolerable" conditions in the occupied territories, which remain sealed off by the Israeli authorities following violence there, the King said.

Following is a text of the King's

interview with the BBC: Question: Your Majesty, here we are in another stage of the Middle East peace process. Hopes have been raised before and hopes have been dashed. Are your hopes high again this time?

Answer: They are high and I hope they will be high throughout this phase which I hope will finally see us achieve a breakthrough which we have sought for so many years.

Q: On what basis have you got for saying that?

A: There is no other alternative and there is no other option for all concerned on either side of the divide and for the world beyond. So I feel there is a realisation by all concerned that this is it; we must really move to secure the

(Continued on page 4)

# Jordan calls for free movement of labour, capital in Arab World

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday called for the free movement of Arab capital and labour within the Arab World and increased inter-Arab trade to advance Arab development.

The call came in a speech delivered by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein at the 26th session of the Council of Arab Universities held at the Jordan Universities of Science and Technology in Irbid.

Higher Education is an area which needs close attention in the Arab World since Arab university graduates still lag behind their counterparts from foreign universities, the Regent said.

"The teaching method, moreover, is in dire need of development that renders a university student more capable of taking initiatives and being creative and more self-reliant too," he said.

"The principal role of Arab universities, as centers for educa-

tional and intellectual radiance contributing to the advance of society and civilisation and the promotion of research and development, is not very clear, rather not ripe," he said.

Following are excerpts from the speech:

"In a seminar on 'Human Development in the Arab Homeland' which was recently convened in Amman, participants scrutinised the extent to which Arab countries have been successful in achieving human development in accordance with accepted international standards. It transpired that Arab countries have witnessed a tangible improvement in the fields of health care, education, general culture and urbanization; and that in certain parameters they have attained standards higher than those attained by other developing countries. On the other hand, major disparities in achievement, as dictated by the available financial resources of the Arab coun-

tries, have become apparent. Moreover, Arab countries generally allocate a large proportion of their revenue — a proportion amounting to three times that of developing countries — for armament and military purposes."

"Such disparities, and excessive spending, undoubtedly reflect insecurity on the part of the Arab Nation, on the one hand, and the need for Arab cooperation on the other hand. Indeed, economic disparity would not remain at the level it stands now if Arab capital, labour and commerce were allowed the freedom to move among the Arab states. To be sure, such course of action and movement are in the interest of all the Arab states along the path of bringing about an Arab order based on a new concept regarding frontiers: a concept that shifts from viewing frontiers as a barrier subjected to strict control to considering them as

(Continued on page 4)



Israeli police arrest a Palestinian youth suspected of throwing stones following a protest Saturday at Jerusalem's Damascus Gate (AFP photo)

# Palestinians stage Jerusalem protest against Israeli siege

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Three hundred Palestinians staged the first demonstration in Jerusalem against the indefinite closure of the occupied territories Saturday, a correspondent reported.

Police arrested one youth suspected of stone-throwing, but otherwise the protest at the Old City's Damascus Gate passed off peacefully.

Religious and secular leaders demanded the lifting of the restriction, which prevents Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip from entering occupied Jerusalem and Israel.

Israel sealed off the occupied territories at the end of March after a month in which Palestinians killed 15 Jews.

Demonstrators carried placards stating: "Al Quds (Jerusalem) is an Arabic city" and "we refuse Jerusalem closure."

The Palestinian decision to attend a ninth round of Middle East peace talks in Washington on Tuesday. A slanging match developed between supporters and opponents of a resumption of the talks.

On Friday, Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian man and wounded at least 65 other Palestinians in clashes in the occupied Gaza Strip, Palestinians said.

Wael Kalloub, 22, was shot in the face outside Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, after the army opened fire on Palestinians who were stoning soldiers, they added.

Palestinians said 43 people were wounded in clashes which broke out in the Toffah neighbourhood of Gaza City after the army raided a Palestinian wake held at the site of 14 homes destroyed by the army Tuesday.

Mourners threw stones at the soldiers, who responded by opening fire, Palestinians said. Medical personnel said another 10 Palestinians were shot inside

Shifa Hospital. They said the army closed the area around the hospital, preventing Palestinians from bringing more wounded into the hospital for treatment.

Twelve Palestinians were injured in clashes elsewhere in the strip, Palestinians said.

Four Palestinians have been killed and 200 wounded in clashes since Tuesday, when Israeli troops destroyed 14 homes in the Toffah neighbourhood.

Troops Friday enforced a tight seal of the occupied territories that is to last until early Tuesday. The restrictions were imposed to prevent anti-Israeli violence during two back-to-back holidays. The occupied territories have been sealed since March 31, but several thousand Palestinian workers have been able to reach Israel every day. Over the weekend, no Palestinians will be allowed to pass the army checkpoints,

دكتور محمد الحاصل



# Expellees in Jordan await return home

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestinian decision last week to return to the Arab-Israeli bilateral peace talks has shed more attention on the promises and gestures that both U.S. and Israeli governments say they will make towards the Palestinians now that they have agreed to return to the negotiating table.

The four-month recess in the talks was caused by the crisis that Israel sparked when it expelled over 400 Palestinians across its northern borders into South Lebanon last December.

Israel now says that expulsion is not a policy but merely a "security measure," but the nearly 1,600 Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories since 1967 know otherwise.

They are lawyers, teachers, journalists, mayors, priests, clergymen, laymen and community leaders. Banished by Israel, often with no official explanation, most of the 1,600 now live in Jordan. Many live in transit-like conditions while others have set up offices to lobby for their return.

A good number of them are now high-ranking officials and members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Executive Committee, the Palestine Central Council (PCC) and the Palestine National Council (PNC).

Sheikh Abdul Hamid Sayeh, the first officially expelled Palestinian from the occupied territories since 1967, is now speaker of the PNC.

"Off-the-record" discussions between Israelis and Palestinians in the last two months have led to an "unofficial" Israeli agreement to repatriate some 30 individuals as an initial gesture towards the Palestinians, Amman- and Tunis-based Palestinian officials say.

"The Israelis have indicated that they would consider repatriating some 30 expellees in addition to a phased return of those in Marj Al Zuhour," Jamil Hilal, head of the PLO information office in Tunis, told the Jordan Times this

week.

While the "unofficial" gesture by the Israelis has created anxieties among the 1,600 expellees in Jordan, the concept that Palestinians and Israelis are negotiating their return has given them hope.

"I don't want to get my hopes up too high because it would be such a cruel joke if it turned out to be another false alarm — like this whole peace process," said the exiled mayor of Al Birah, Abdul Jawad Saleh.

Mr. Saleh's wife said: "I read in one of the newspapers that my husband's name is on the list and I have begun making a list of things I want to take with me."

Mr. Saleh was expelled in 1973, but most of his family never left home. His sick mother, whom he says he desperately wants to see, and his four children live in the West Bank.

"I have been denied the right to properly carry out my duties as a son and I have not had the pleasure of being there for my grandchildren," he says.

Mr. Saleh is one of some 300 to 400 names that the PLO in Tunis has collected in a priority list for a phased return of all those officially expelled since 1967.

"All Palestinians who were either forced to leave since 1967 or those who are not allowed to visit and live in the occupied territories consider themselves expelled," said Suha Eid of the Bir Zeit University liaison office, which also houses the Committee of Palestinian Deportees.

The names of the 1,227 expellees that the committee has documented up to August 1988 as well as some 400 expelled during the intifada were "chosen by the Israelis — that is what makes them special," Miss Eid said.

"Israel chose them because it felt that a leaderless community could be more easily controlled," says Aishah Odeh, a woman activist and expellee.

Ms. Odeh was expelled in



Mohammad Milhem



Hanna Nasir



Abdul Hameed Al Sayeh



Bishop Elia Khoury

1979 after having spent 10 years in jail for carrying out military operations against the occupation forces on behalf of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). Her parents' house was blown up after she was sent into exile.

"The Israelis did not realise that new leaders are born every day," Ms. Odeh told the Jordan Times. Having met with Israeli peace activists in women's conferences in Europe, Ms. Odeh believes that Palestinians and Israelis can live side-by-side and look forward to returning home.

She has been notified by colleagues in the DFLP (Abd Rabbo wing) that her name is on the list. "I don't want to hope too much, but I can't stop hoping either," she said.

The Israelis have made a long list of exceptions to those that they will allow to return in the initial phase. The PLO list includes those who will return in the initial phase, PCC member Saleh Ra'fat said. "We have forwarded a list and we are hoping this list will be accepted," he said.

No intifada-related exiles and no-one with a record of military background or activities will be among those Israel allows to return to the occupied territories in the initial phase.

Those in the PLO list, the older and more vulnerable ex-

pellees say, should be allowed to return first.

"I think the older people should be the first to be allowed back," says 1974 expellee Hanna Nasir. "I have been told I am on the list but I would rather have older people return before me — or those who have their entire families there," said Dr. Nasir, the exiled president of Bir Zeit University.

Among the exiles several hundred are now in their sixties and seventies; about two dozen died in exile.

Among the older exiles are Anglican leader and PCC member Bishop Elia Khoury who has been in exile since 1970.

Isam Abdul Hadi, head of the Palestinian Women's Federation who was expelled in 1968, is both on the PLO list and is one of those whom the Israelis are expected to allow to return. In her late 60s, Ms. Abdul Hadi headed the federation from her base in exile in Amman for the last 25 years.

PLO Executive Committee member Suleiman Najjab was expelled in 1975. Mr. Najjab represents the Palestinian People Party in the committee. Another exile on the executive committee is the former mayor of Haiboul, Mohammad Milhem. Exiled with the late mayor of Hebron, Fahd Al Qawasm, in 1980, Mr. Milhem's name is also on the

"list."

The different parties within the PLO all have their "priority people" who once looked after their respective interests in the occupied territories. While the final decision will be that of the government of Israel on who goes back and when, increasing speculation about the list has put the exiled community on hold.

"My husband is with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), sort of," says Um Iyad, whose husband Ahmad Odeh was expelled after spending two years in an Israeli prison in 1971.

"Four of our children are here and five children are in the West Bank," says Um Iyad. "The Israelis let me come and go so I go there every three months to visit my children there."

Her husband is not on the "list" as far as she knows, but he is unlikely to be on the list. Mr. Odeh is a mason and not an active member of any political group.

"I think at least half the people on the 'list' should be those who are not community leaders; this returning thing should not be something for the elite alone," insists Dr. Nasir.

While Israel has given individual and sometimes group permits for expelled Palestinians to return, it has never taken it upon itself to allow for

all those expelled to return.

In fact when it did allow for a few Palestinians to return it made attempts to turn them into "collaborators." Nadim Zaru, former mayor of Ramallah who was exiled in 1979, was allowed back in the mid-1980s only to face pressure and coercion from the Israelis.

"They allowed him and a few others to return," his wife, artist Samia Zaru, told the Jordan Times. "They thought that he would become a turncoat. When he didn't they began treating him miserably — letting him sit all day at the police station and asking useless questions."

But Mr. Zaru is an exception to the rule. Over 95 per cent of the exiles have never got the chance to visit their homes in the West Bank or Gaza.

For many this meant a separation from their families and in many cases their families joined them in exile.

The next one month will be a time of waiting and expectation. If the United States and Israel come through on their "off-the-record promises" to the Palestinians, some of the expellees are expected to return, possibly within the next six weeks.

It would be the first concrete gesture by both the U.S. and Israel towards the Palestinians — something that the 1,600 expellees in Amman would very much appreciate.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cleric denounces conviction of Egyptian Muslims

NEW YORK (R) — The spiritual leader of Muslim fundamentalists trying to overthrow the Egyptian government Friday denounced death sentences against seven militants convicted in Cairo of launching violent attacks against tourists and others. The denunciation of the death sentences and jail terms against another 22 came from Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, who preaches for the overthrow of the Egyptian government from his self-imposed exile in Jersey City, New Jersey. The militants were convicted Thursday in Jersey City of attacking foreign tourists and conspiring to topple the government in a year-long campaign that has claimed 120 lives. "If the Egyptian regime thinks by issuing these unjust sentences... they are can stop the thunderous machine of our mujahideen... they are indeed in deep illusion," he said in a statement. Sheikh Abdul Rahman has often railed against Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, claiming that he violates human rights and stays in power only because of police and military support. To the tyrants of Egypt we say: Where are you going to hide? We promise that your destruction time is near.

### 150 kilos of cocaine seized at Beirut port

BEIRUT (AFP) — Lebanese security Friday seized 150 kilograms of cocaine from Colombia at the port of Beirut following a tip to police, the national ANI news agency said. The cocaine, valued at \$10 million and stashed inside a motor, arrived in Beirut from the Netherlands and Egypt where it transited aboard the freighter Oriental Night.

### Policeman killed in clash with Kuwait car gang

KUWAIT (R) — A policeman was killed and two officers were wounded in a clash between Kuwaiti police and an armed gang of car-crazed youths. Al Watan daily reported Saturday. The youngsters started shooting Thursday when police tried to prevent them from blocking the main road to the Saudi border and turning it into a race track, the newspaper said. Police had to take cover and wait for reinforcements after being showered by machinegun bullets by the gang, the daily reported. A back-up patrol car overturned while passing over a section of the road covered with oil. The youths had spilled the oil earlier as part of a skidding demonstration. The driver was killed instantly, two others were injured. Only two of the estimated 200 car drivers were arrested by other patrol cars, the newspaper said. The newspaper said the gang was in the habit of using the road as a race track one day a week. A Ministry of Interior spokesman said he was checking the report. Many Kuwaitis stole abandoned Iraqi weapons when Iraq's occupation troops were expelled from Kuwait in February 1991. Some have yet to be handed in despite repeated government appeals.

### One killed in clash with police in Turkey

ANKARA (AFP) — Twelve suspected left-wing militants were killed in a recent clash with security forces in the east of the country, Anatolia news agency said Friday. The dead, said to be members of the Dev-Sol organisation (Devrimci Sol — revolutionary left), were killed Sunday near Tunceli in the region of Anatolia, the agency said. The deaths occurred after militants launched a rocket attack on a police station in Akcapinar, near Tunceli. Police caught up with and engaged the militants some kilometres (miles) away, killing 12 of them, the agency said. Dev-Sol, which specialises in urban guerrilla warfare, was severely weakened in March in two security operations in Istanbul, during which eight members died, including the group's number two. Two other militants said to be from the group were also killed overnight Thursday in Istanbul in what were said to be reprisals between rival factions of the group, Anatolia said.

### Cyprus to apply U.N. sanctions on Serb firms

NICOSIA (AFP) — Cyprus, a base for hundreds of Serbian off-shore firms, is prepared to apply strictly U.N. sanctions on the rump Yugoslavia due to take effect Monday, the central bank governor said Saturday. "All the assets of Serbian firms and banks will be frozen, except the property of individuals" unless Bosnian Serbs accept the Vance-Owen peace plan for the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afrentios Afrentiou told AFP. Three Serb banks, including the Beogradiska Banka, and nearly 500 other Serbian off-shore firms are registered in Cyprus, although less than 10 per cent have offices. U.N. Resolution 820 calls for tighter sanctions against Yugoslavia — Serbia and Montenegro — if Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina continue to reject a peace plan proposed by mediators Lord Owen of the European Community and Cyrus Vance of the United Nations. Belgrade is blamed for the war in Bosnia. Mr. Afrentiou said the sanctions "will be strictly applied to off-shore banks and companies in Cyprus." But the governor "categorically denied" foreign news reports that some off-shore Serbian firms in Cyprus were circumventing the initial U.N. embargo imposed last year. Lord Owen Friday proposed creating a U.N.-controlled land corridor linking Serb-held territory in Bosnia to Serbia in a final effort to get Bosnia's Serbs to sign the U.N.-sponsored peace plan.

### Canada investigates killing of Somali

MOGADISHU (R) — Three senior Canadian military investigators arrived in Somalia Friday to probe the fatal shooting by the forces of a Somali in the central town of Beletuen last month. A spokesman at the Canadian command, part of a 24,000-strong U.S.-led task force that is helping restore order in Somalia, said the new team would take over the case. "Vice-Admiral Larry Murray — Canadian deputy chief of staff — has ordered a military police investigation into this unfortunate incident," the official said. Task force spokesman Colonel Fred Peck said the Ottawa order was made after top Canadian military commanders reviewed a preliminary report by a joint Canadian and task force team. He declined to reveal the contents of the first report. Col. Peck said officers to be probed were from the airborne regiment based in Beletuen. He declined to give their names. The senior Canadian officers, whose names or ranks were not divulged, were due to fly to Beletuen Saturday. The Canadian command spokesman said the investigators wanted to find out whether the soldiers were justified in killing the Somali or whether it was a clear case of homicide.

## Iraq agrees to ship out nuclear fuel

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi authorities agreed here Saturday to ship abroad the last known batch of enriched uranium made for the country's atomic weapons programme, the head of a U.N. team said here.

The U.N. and Iraqi officials signed a memorandum of understanding on what Iraq can do to assist us in the removing of the (nuclear) fuel," weighing 40 kilograms, Maurizio Zifferero said.

Removal could begin in July or August, according to the Italian, who headed a 17-member team which ended a week-long visit to Iraq.

The removal of the uranium would take about six months and needs a lot of technical assistance from the Iraqi side. This is not a simple operation," he said.

The operation will require substantial support both in terms of equipment facilities and manpower from the Iraqi side," he said. "Iraq is obliged to bear the costs of the transfer which will be very high."

While awaiting a plan to remove the material, previous U.N. missions had left the uranium at two nuclear facilities, including Tuwaitha, 30 kilometres south-east of Baghdad.

In December a U.N. mission said it had destroyed material

used to enrich uranium at the Tuwaitha facility, which allied warplanes hit during the 1991 Gulf war.

Mr. Zifferero declined to say where the uranium would be sent.

On landing in Bahrain, Mr. Zifferero told reporters that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had agreed with one of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — Russia, the United States, France, Britain and China — to take the fuel for processing.

France and the former Soviet Union, he said, had delivered the uranium to Iraq in the first place. A contract still needs to be signed with the company or companies which would undertake the removal of the fuel. The IAEA had failed to reach an agreement earlier with a consortium of British and French companies, he said.

Once processed, the IAEA would offer the fuel for sale for normal use in nuclear reactors outside Iraq.

The United Nations accused Iraq Friday of continued failure to fulfil pledges to dismantle its programmes to make weapons of mass destruction.

"Iraq's attempts to limit the (disarmament) commission's endeavours raise doubts about Iraq's intent," U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali said in a report.

The U.N. chief said he was particularly concerned about "dual-capable facilities," plants that can be switched from com-

mercial to military use if needed.

In London, a new Iraqi opposition movement, claiming wide contacts in the Iraqi military, announced plans Friday to unite all opposition groups in a campaign to oust the government of Saddam Hussein.

General Aref Abdul Razzak, a former Iraqi prime minister who is chairman of the new movement, called for a conference of all opponents to create an Iraqi national council in exile elected by all Iraqis living abroad.

"We feel this is the first serious attempt to unite the major opposition groups by having them all co-sponsor a conference of all Iraqis," said Saad Saleh Jabr, U.S.-educated Shi'ite Muslim president of the Free Iraqi Council and spokesman for the new movement.

Gen. Razzak, who led an abortive coup in Baghdad in 1965, had been a key figure in the Iraqi National Congress, which was formed last year by disparate movements opposed to President Saddam. But he said he quit because it did not represent Sunni Muslims who dominate the officers corps in the army and would be "the pillars" of any attempt to overthrow the regime.

The Iraqi opposition "cannot form an army to challenge Saddam" and his outermost move was engineered from within the Iraqi military, Gen. Razzak told a news conference.

"We think Saddam is still strong," he said. "We think the changeover must come from Baghdad itself."

## Top Israeli defence aide visits Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — A senior Israeli defence ministry official held talks here with officials on arms treaties, the official MENA news agency reported Friday.

It said the director general of Israel's defence ministry, David Ivry, arrived in Egypt Wednesday, but gave no details on the talks, saying only that they centred on "treaties on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction," adding that he left early Friday.

Egypt has repeatedly urged Israel to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Most Arab countries, including Egypt, are signatories of the NPT. But they have made their agreement to a convention on the banning of chemical weapons conditional upon Israel's adherence to the NPT.

Israel has never admitted to having nuclear weapons but has said it would not be the first country to use them in the Middle East.

The visit by Mr. Ivry, a reserve general and head of the Israeli delegation to multilateral Arab-Israeli peace talks on arms control, came a day after a two-day visit to Egypt by Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid.

Mr. Sarid tried to allay Egyptian fears about possible contamination in the southern Israeli desert from the Dimona nuclear plant following press reports.

## Sheikh eluded immigration after recent Canada trip

NEW YORK (AP) — Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the Islamic fundamentalist linked to the suspects in the World Trade Centre bombing, eluded immigration officials after a recent trip to Canada, according to a published report.

The New York Times reported in Saturday's editions that it was the third time the sheikh managed to elude immigration authorities despite being on a State Department watch list of "terrorists and undesirables." He was reportedly in Canada in late 1992, months after his permanent residency permit was rescinded.

Had he been caught at the border, immigration authorities could have prevented Sheikh Abdul Rahman from entering the United States.

"If he went to Canada they could have excluded him coming back," Representative Charles Schumer told the Times.

The Times said it was not clear when he travelled to Canada and how and when he reentered the United States. Witnesses told the newspaper they saw the sheikh preaching at both an Islamic school and mosque in Ottawa. Sheikh Abdul Rahman's attorney denied that he went to Canada.

The Justice Department has said that the sheikh's failing health and the lack of evidence linking him to terrorism convinced federal authorities to keep him out of jail despite a pending deportation hearing.

trying the sheikh in absentia on charges of organising and leading an anti-government demonstration. He has been tried and acquitted three times in Egypt, including for the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat. City Comptroller Elizabeth Holtzman and Sen. Alfonse D'Amato had asked the Justice Department to detain the sheikh, saying he is here illegally and has a strong connection to the World Trade Centre bombing suspects.

But a letter to Ms. Holtzman, released Thursday, gave federal authorities' reasons why the cleric was not taken into custody after a federal immigration judge ordered the sheikh deported.

The expense of handling health care for the blind cleric was cited, as was a lack of information directly trying Sheikh Abdul Rahman to any terrorist activity in the United States.

Two of Sheikh Abdul Rahman's alleged followers have been charged in the Feb. 26 World Trade Centre bombing which killed six and injured more than 1,000. The fundamentalist preacher has not been charged and has publicly denounced the bombing.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman, 55, entered the U.S. in July 1990 after obtaining a tourist visa from the U.S. embassy in the Sudan.

The sheikh has continued preaching at mosques in Brooklyn and Jersey City while fighting deportation.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-14

PROGRAMME TWO  
19:30 Le Ciel de Fort Bivard  
19:40 News in French  
19:45 Le Journal de l'histoire  
19:50 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Executive Street  
21:10 Laurel and Hardy  
22:00 News in English  
22:20 Vulture

## PRAYER TIMES

6:45 Fajr  
15:52 Sunrise (Sunrise) Duha  
12:34 Dhuhur  
16:13 Asr  
19:16 Maghrib  
20:39 Isha

## CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedisch, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 82785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 627480  
De la Saie Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

## Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 620543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 652526

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 623824, 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

It will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain, especially in the eastern parts of Jordan. Winds will be westerly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman ..... 11/21  
Aqaba ..... 16/30  
Dhahran ..... 15/28  
Jordan Valley ..... 10/24

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 23, Aqaba 31, Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Jamal Al-Jarrah ..... 796460  
Dr. Mohammad Al-Ghoul ..... 797730  
Dr. Bassam Karadshah ..... 796200  
Dr. Saad Ali ..... 798285  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 637052  
Nairook pharmacy ..... 624972  
Al Salame pharmacy ..... 636720  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

### WEATHER

AMMAN:  
Dr. Hassan Stasouri ..... (-)  
Alquds pharmacy ..... (-)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Hussain Mahmoud ..... (-)  
Khalil pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ..... 630441  
Rescue ..... 199  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 638201  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 623101  
Repairs ..... 621011  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 81381/322  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. .... 644281/6  
Akhil Maternity, J. Amn. .... 642441/2  
Jabal Aman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 63140  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Mushter Hospital ..... 667227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 661171/3  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Iulian, Al-Mulajra ..... 777101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775111/26  
Army, Marja ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 622401/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155

ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
Al Hikmah Modern Hospital ..... (09)909990

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:15 Aqaba (RJ)  
06:30 Jeddah (RJ)  
06:45 Athens (RJ)  
06:55 Bangkok (RJ)  
07:05 Sanaa (RJ)  
07:15 Damascus (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
11:45 Beirut (RJ)  
11:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
11:55 London (RJ)  
12:00 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
12:05 Athens (RJ)  
12:10 Brussels, Paris (RJ)  
12:15 Frankfurt (RJ)  
12:20 Vienna (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:30 Cairo (GF)  
10:35 Bahrain (GF)  
10:40 Moscow (SU)  
10:45 Larnaca (CY)  
10:50 Beirut (ME)

#### DEPARTURES

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:00 Aqaba (RJ)  
07:15 Beirut (RJ)  
07:30 Frankfurt (RJ)  
07:35 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)  
07:40 Vienna (RJ)  
07:45 Rome (RJ)  
07:50 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
07:55 Athens (RJ)  
08:00 Riyadh (RJ)  
08:05 Jeddah (RJ)



# Home News

## NHF workshop stresses role of media in rural development

AMMAN (J.T.) — A training workshop for 50 members of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's (NHF) Quality of Life Project's Technical Committees operating in the southern part of Jordan has called for further coordination among community and private institutions in development work.

At the end of a three-day training session (April 20-22) in Aqaba, participants also affirmed the role of mass media in rein-

forcing self-reliance and efficient organisation among rural communities covered by the NHF project.

During the three-day workshop, trainees received lectures on the project's technical committee's goals and role in promoting health care and establishing income-generating schemes in Jordanian villages.

They were also trained in the design and implementation of village development plans in coop-

eration with members of the local communities.

The Quality of Life Project was launched by Noor Al Hussein Foundation in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health with the goal of introducing a dynamic, innovative development programme that would improve the total quality of life of underprivileged individuals and communities in rural, urban and densely-populated parts of Jordan.

## UNRWA stands to purchase \$70m in local goods

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — After meetings with government officials and Jordanian businessmen on Thursday, a two-member United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) delegation Saturday toured Jordanian factories to determine their capabilities of producing essential products for Palestinian refugees.

According to an official at the Foreign Ministry's Department for Palestinian Affairs, which organised the visit in an effort to encourage UNRWA to purchase necessities it supplies to the refugees from local Jordanian firms should UNRWA decide in favour of this offer it would be spending not less than \$70 million annually here.

The UNRWA team, comprising Abdul Ghani Khalil and Ahmad Balgees are concluding their several day visit and will leave Sunday and Tuesday for Vienna to report on their findings and their discussions in Jordan.

Palestinian affairs department official Ihsan Bustami accompanied Mr. Khalil and Mr. Balgees on their visits to Jordanian factories manufacturing blankets, garments, detergents, stationary and pharmaceutical products — all of which are essential items distributed to refugees or used by the agency's centres in Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank Bank and the Gaza Strip.

## Japan offers Jordan small-scale grant help

AMMAN (J.T.) — As a means to ensure better response to a variety of development needs in Jordan, the government of Japan, based upon the consent of the government of Jordan, has recently decided to introduce a new scheme for extending Small-Scale Grant Assistance (SSGA).

SSGA aims at providing financial assistance mainly to non-governmental organisations (NGOs), research institutes, hospitals and local governments in Jordan, so that they can carry out their grass-roots projects said an Embassy of Japan statement.

As far as it is a grass-roots development project, any project may be the subject of SSGA, it said.

But it said a project in one of the following sectors is desirable for SSGA: 1) primary health care, 2) primary education, 3) public welfare and environment, 4) WID (women in development), 5) poverty relief.

## Visiting Turkish trade team seeks deals

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Amman Chamber of Industry Khalidoun Abu Hassan urged a visiting Turkish trade delegation Saturday to help promote trade exchange between Jordan and Turkey and adjust the balance of trade between them.

Jordan last year imported \$97 million worth of Turkish products, but was able to sell Turkey only \$15 million of Jordanian goods, Mr. Abu Hassan said at a meeting with the Turkish delegation representing the Chamber of Trade in Istanbul.

Through joint ventures and increased imports of Jordanian products by the Turkish private sector, the balance of trade could be adjusted, said Mr. Abu Hassan.

The head of the Turkish delegation said the visit aims at studying prospects for promoting economic and trade links with Jordan, adding that Jordanian and Turkish businessmen are welcome to play a joint role towards promoting trade links between their countries and towards increasing trade links with the countries of Central Asia.

## Communists re-elect Zayadin, but amend political programme

By Sausan Ghosheh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Yacoub Zayadin Saturday was re-elected as the general secretary of the Jordanian Communist Party (JCP), which also introduced major changes to its political programme at the end of its first national legal congress.

The congress was attended by 193 delegates, representing different regions in Jordan and different segments of society.

According to Dr. Zayadin, women constituted 16 per cent, workers 35 per cent and youth 50 per cent of the delegates.

The congress was the first meeting of its kind and provided an excellent opportunity for members of the JCP to meet each other, Dr. Zayadin said.

The three-day congress elected a new central committee and an inspection committee, which reviews the actions and decisions of the central committee.

Dr. Zayadin said approximately 50 per cent of the central committee members are new. In addition, he explained that the congress decided to form an inspection committee, a new phenomenon in the JCP, to ensure the correct practices of the central committee and to strengthen democracy.

Observers commented that the JCP is undergoing a democratization process. All the meetings and elections were open to the press. More important, for the first time in its 40-year history, the JCP held free and open elections.

Although the former JSP leadership compiled a suggested list of the new central committee, the door was open for nominations from the floor and 39 were nominated, of which 25 were elected.

When asked why there was a suggested list, Laila Nafaa, member of the JCP's current central committee, said it was seen as necessary because most of the delegates do not know each other.

During the meetings, serious discussions and disagreements arose, which Dr. Zayadin perceived as healthy and part of the democratic process.

"Democracy needs practice. There were many heated discus-



Jordanian Communist Party (JCP) General Secretary Yacoub Zayadin (centre), flanked by JCP central committee members Abdel Aziz Al Ateah (left) and Munir Hamarneh, Saturday addresses the party's first, national legal congress (Photo by Youssef 'Alan')

On the Palestinian question, the congress changed the motto from the liberation of Palestine, to the liberation of Palestine through the strengthening of the Jordanian democracy and the solidarity with the intifada.

Dr. Zayadin said the JCP is calling for the strengthening of democracy, the assurance of human rights and the reduction of illiteracy and backwardness in Jordanian society.

In addition, the JCP stresses the need to hold an economic national conference to adopt a social and economic programme that will end the "economic crisis" of the country and find a solution to the debt problem.

Ms. Nafaa said the congress decided to form committees concerned with human rights and the environment.

The JCP congress also affirmed its support for the workers of Jordan and granting women all their economic, political and social rights.

The congress called for unity among the parties in Jordan to protect the country from external forces, to liberate Palestine and to reduce unemployment and poverty.

When asked about the unity among leftist parties, Dr. Zayadin said it is a premature idea that needs more discussion.

The JCP took the opportunity to invite those who left the party to return and work to guarantee social development and democracy.

The congress also stressed that education and culture are important elements for the development and progress of society, warning the masses of the dangers inherent in the "imperialist" culture that has affected their morals.

The JCP condemned the regionalism, factionalism and terrorism that is present in the Arab World. It focused on the establishment of a realistic and studied unity among the Arab countries to face such problems.

The congress voiced its support for Cuba and North Korea in their stand against the "imperialist" powers. Furthermore, it called for end to the U.N. imposed embargoes against Iraq and Libya.

A statement was issued, by the congress condemning Russian President Boris Yeltsin for destroying the economic structure of Russia and for supporting the "mafia" and the "Western intelligence agencies."

The delegates for this congress will hold their posts until the next congress, meeting whenever they deem necessary to guarantee proper performance by the leadership.

## Sawt Al Shaab future remains unpredictable as deficit increases

By Ghaith El Lawzi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The future of the Sawt Al Shaab daily remains unpredictable despite the government's injection of JD 1,200,000 to repay part of the accumulated debt to the Housing Bank, and despite the newspaper's latest attempt to revitalise sales and attract more readers through offering free advertising of obituaries.

Jordanian private investors have offered to buy the government-owned newspaper after a series of short-term advertising and marketing efforts failed to counter its problems with over-employment and low distribution level.

The idea of minimising the government ownership of the daily was rejected by the government itself. In fact, once the government preferred to keep its share in the daily as is, the daily's reputation in the market had to be up to the level of the other two main competitors, (Al Ra'i and Al Dustour).

This action prompted Sawt Al

Shaab to make its latest effort in offering free space for obituaries sent in by direct family members of the deceased.

"The main objective behind their offer is to attract more readers to buy the daily and present a good image of the newspaper," said an official at Al Dustour.

He stressed that the main objective is not humanitarian. The same opinion was voiced by another official of Al Ra'i daily who pointed to the commercial aspect of the advertisement.

"Al Shaab is suffering from over-staff as well as overhead expenses. It is in need of new customers," the Al Ra'i official said.

"We tried to save the newspaper through paying its debts, but the government refused at the time. I suggested the idea to a group of Jordanian investors, but the offer was turned down by the government," said Sami Gammo, the ex-chairman of the daily's board.

In fact, the daily was seriously suffering from high debts as well as over-employment due to mismanagement. Still, when the gov-

ernment paid the debt to the Housing Bank, the situation did not improve.

The latest financial statement indicates that the 1992 loss was about JD 101,000.

The accumulated losses over the last few years add up to approximately JD 3.5 million, which exceeds the total capital of the daily (JD 2 million).

Had the government approved injecting more money to raise capital from Jordanian private investors, certainly the financial condition of the daily would have been better.

"By doing this we could have restructured the daily through cultivating a new management that involves qualified as well as experienced staff," said Taher Al Masri former Prime Minister who was intending with a group of Jordanian investors including Jafar Al Shami, Jawdat Al Barghouti, Anis Al Muasher, Amin Shoaib and others to repay the debt to the Housing Bank.

He elaborated more by indicating that the main objective behind their offer was to privatise the daily and give it a strong push in the market.

## Canada, Jordan agree to expand air travel routes

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first day of a visit here by a 15-member trade delegation from the Canadian province of Quebec resulted Saturday in the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding to expand air travel between Jordan and Canada.

At ceremony attended by Deputy Premier and Transport Minister Ali Suheimat, Royal Jordanian President Mahmoud Balgees and Quebec Minister of Transport Sam Elkas, the document was signed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director Ahmad Jweiber and Canada's ambassador to Jordan Andrew Robinson, paving the way for Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national airline, to make extra trips to Canada.

The memorandum which constitutes a follow up to a 1990 bilateral agreement on air transport allows RJ to operate flights to Montreal and Toronto and civil aviation authorities in Quebec to operate flights be-

tween Toronto, Montreal and Amman, via European airports, according to an official statement quoted by the Jordan News Agency, (Petra).

Following the signing ceremony Mr. Elkas said the agreement would contribute towards further bolstering Canadian-Jordanian relations and bilateral cooperation in economic, scientific, tourism and cultural fields.

The Canadian delegation which groups members representing leading industrial sectors in Quebec Saturday also met with Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour.

Mr. Elkas told the minister that major opportunities exist for bilateral trade cooperation.

In reviewing Canadian-Jordanian tie, the two sides discussed prospects for cooperation in electrical electronic and telecommunications fields, according to the Petra statement.

The statement said Dr. Ensour outlined Jordan's general economic, educational, health and

trade policies noting that foreign investment projects enjoy numerous privileges in Jordan because of its political stability and democratic orientation.

Dr. Ensour also briefed the visitors on the country's economic restructuring programme since 1988 and discussed prospects of increasing the volume of Jordanian exports to Canada.

The Quebec delegation Saturday also called on Health Minister Aref Al Bataineh to discuss cooperation in Health affairs and learned about the ministry's training and expansion programmes.

The two sides, according to Petra, discussed the prospect of Canada building a paediatric hospital in Amman and providing the ministry with ambulances.

The Quebec delegation is expected to meet with the members of the Canada-Jordan Business Council and senior business leaders, as well as with government ministers.

## Cabinet approve 2 more party papers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday approved the issuance of licences to two political parties to publish weekly newspapers. The licences will be issued to the secretaries general of the Progress and Justice Party, headed by Ali Fareed Al Saad, and the Freedom Party, headed by Fawwaz Al Zu'bi. The cabinet's decision was issued upon a recommendation by Information Minister Mahmoud Al Sharif and in accordance with Article 16 of the 1973 Press and Publications Law and the Political Parties Law. The number of

licensed political publications now rises to six. The cabinet, also approved a draft law on measurements and specifications, which will be referred to the Lower House of Parliament for approval in its next session.

## Kabariti appointed acting foreign minister

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Saturday appointing Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti as Acting Foreign Minister in place of Kamel Abu Jaber. Dr. Abu Jaber is currently participating in the meetings of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers conference.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS


- ★ Art exhibition entitled "The Legend of Petra II" by artist Suba Shoman at the National Gallery for Fine Arts.
- ★ Art exhibition by Samia Al Zaru and Adnan Yahya at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of prints, entitled "Architectural Motifs from the Arab World," by Rima Farah at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental.
- ★ Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Lebanese artist Randa Berouti at Romero Restaurant.
- ★ Exhibition of ceramics by Margaret Tadros at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Dr. Laila Bustamfi at the Royal cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Jordanian artist Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of sculptures by Syrian artist Aktham Abdul Hameed at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Youssef Abdelke at Al Balka'a Gallery, Al Fubeis city.

### LECTURE

- ★ Lecture, in Arabic, by Minister of Culture Mahmoud Al Samra entitled "Cultural Centre in Jordan — Reality and Future" at the Scientific and Culture Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation at 6 p.m.

### FILM

- ★ 1990 feature film entitled "Reversal of Fortune" at 5 p.m. at the American Centre (R-rated, 111 min.).



**ToNight**

**The National Music Conservatory /  
Noor Al Hussein Foundation**

and  
**Schiller - Institut**

present

**Seth Taylor (violin) and Monica Ripamonti (piano)**

in a  
**VIOLIN & PIANO RECITAL**

Sunday, 25 April 1993 - 8:00 P.M.  
The Royal Cultural Centre - Main Theatre

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Director General:  
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Editor-in-Chief:  
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

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### Sunday's Economic Pulse

## Sales tax — a painful setback

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

After publishing over 20 columns, in Al Ra'i (Arabic) and the Jordan Times, to support the sales tax draft law, I do not lack the courage to withdraw my support for the law. Not because I have backed off my position, but because the minister of finance has retreated and abandoned most of the salient points in the original draft. Unfortunately, he gave in to the pressures of the private sector's monsters; thus the law became tailored to the wishes of big business, at the expense of the treasury and the vast majority of the people. It is a pity that the minister of finance, the champion of the economic adjustment programme, was unable to take the heat and chose to appease the importers and submit to their demands.

The worst and most unfortunate concession that the minister of finance, and consequently the government, gave to importers is that the sales tax will be applicable to the cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value of imports i.e., before adding the cost of customs duty. This alteration is obviously a stab in the back of domestic industry, which is required to pay the same rate, but applicable to the whole price of the commodity, including even the elements of income tax and profits. This technical change means a reduction of one third of the tax on imports.

Such a practice obviously runs contrary to the best interest of the national economy. It favours imports and shifts jobs from the domestic economy to the economies of the countries from where the imports originate. This is of course against the interests of the working class, especially when unemployment is still as high as 18 per cent of the labour force.

The second concession made, or about to be made, by the minister of finance is the exemption of services from the sales tax. Lawyers, engineers, architects, auditors, advertising agents and other all-mighty professionals would not give their blessing to the law as long as the sales tax would reach them.

This concession means that the law lost what remained of its neutrality. It penalises the commodity production sector which deserves every encouragement and favours the inflated services sector which forms two thirds of the economy.

I am not sorry for the relentless campaign I have led to justify the sales tax as an integral part of the economic adjustment programme. The sales tax I defended and promoted was a reform, in the right direction, to the present consumption tax. However, after all the deals, concessions and distortions there is no more a reform whatsoever, only a change of name, which the International Monetary Fund (IMF) may be naive enough to accept.

Among other concessions extracted from the minister of finance is the reduction of the general rate from 10 to five per cent. Officials assured us that the proceeds of the new sales tax will be substantially equal to the proceeds of the old consumption tax, which it will replace. We cannot understand now how the proceeds will continue to be financially neutral when the general rate is halved. It is not reasonable to continue to claim that the proceeds will be neutral irrespective of the rate.

The economic neutrality is also out of question when we have four different rates, namely: zero, 5 per cent, 10 per cent, and 20 per cent. The wide variation of the tax creates artificial

advantages and disadvantages and operates as an incentive to alter the behaviour of both investors and consumers at the expense of economic feasibility considerations and economic sense. This is a new distortion introduced into the economy to worsen the allocation of resources.

It was argued that the concession given to importers was meant to prevent price changes, up and down, of certain commodities in the market, because without this concession prices of imports may rise between three per cent and 10 per cent, and the competing local commodities would look less expensive. This justification is meaningless, because the sales tax, either before or after the concession, will alter the prices of certain commodities anyway as long as the rates of the new sales tax will not be the same as the rates of the present consumption tax and many commodities which will be charged with sales tax were not subjected to the previous consumption tax.

Being the first and perhaps the only outspoken defender of the unpopular sales tax, I hereby distance myself from this law in its latest distorted version which is no longer a tax reform. On the contrary, it will create new distortions. I am saddened by the fact that the determination to adhere to the economic adjustment programme started to fade out and that the officials, which were the symbols of determination, started to give in and make concessions. Unless the sales tax law is restored to its original version, the whole economic reform and the adjustment programme will be put into jeopardy.

## Standard to torture?

NO MATTER which way the Israeli high court will decide on the legality of the "moderate physical pressure" that the Israeli general security service, Shin Bet, condones as lawful when interrogating Palestinians, the fact remains that the Jewish state's record on torture is dismal. Even since the beginning of the Palestinian intifada, no less than 2,000 to 3,000 Palestinian detainees or prisoners have been tortured or ill-treated, according to documented evidence obtained by several non-governmental organisations concerned with human rights abuses. Israeli authorities have been lax, to put it mildly, in meeting their government's treaty obligations under both the International Convention Against Torture and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The liberal application of moderate physical pressure has also been stretched to legalise the so-called "non-violent psychological pressure," something that clearly runs counter to international jurisprudence against torture and ill-treatment of detainees or prisoners.

The lip-service that Israel pays to various human rights instruments can be best illustrated by the fact that "non-violent psychological pressure" and "moderate physical pressure" have been construed by Shin Bet and other Israeli security agencies to mean that all sorts of physical brutalities which leave no physical trace can be tolerated. According to current Israeli standards, it is thus not inhuman to take detainees and prisoners before a mock firing squad or be led to mock gallows, in callous attempts to drive fear and pain into their hearts.

But even if the highest court in Israel finally decides against the legality of the present guidelines on torture, the issue will remain as to how to overturn all past convictions based on improper methods of interrogation and how to provide effective remedies to the victims of torture.

As we doubt that Israelis themselves have ever been the subject of systematic torture in their country, we have to question whether the rule of law in Israel does not accommodate two standards for justice: One for Jewish citizens and the other for Palestinians.

With the tenth session of the U.N. Committee against torture being currently in session in Geneva, it would be only right for its members to order a probe into Israeli police practices and also look at conditions in prisons where Arabs are kept in their thousands.

Israel cannot continue to plead the argument that it is a democracy (or worse still the only democracy in the Middle East) as long as its record on basic human rights is that dismal. As Israel is due to submit its reports to both committees, the one on torture and the other on civil and political rights, it should be well-understood that the two instruments apply to Israel proper as well as to the Israeli-occupied territories.

When the Israeli case comes under close scrutiny by these two bodies, there will be additional opportunities to dig deeper into some grave violations committed by the Jewish state against Palestinians. The picture that emerges will no doubt compromise Israel's image as a democratic state that respects the human rights of others. But will Israel ever draw from it the right lesson namely that occupation can only lead to more repression, more violence and widespread suffering?

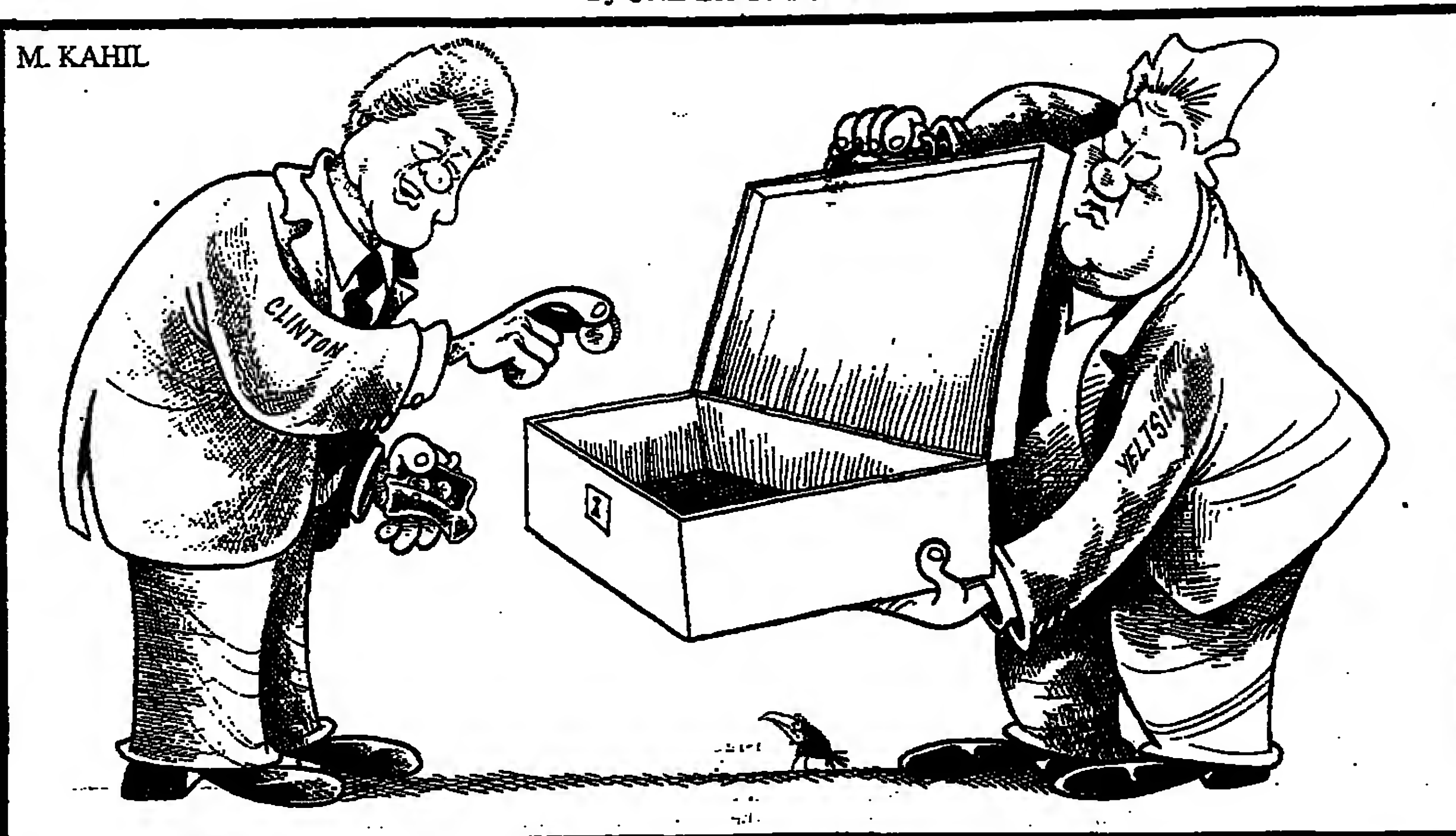
### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Saturday tackled the question of continued sanctions on Iraq in general and the U.N. refusal to allow the Iraqis to retrieve its civilian planes that had taken refuge in other countries just before the Gulf war. The Iraqis want the planes for civilian purposes, including the transportation of pilgrims to the holy places in Saudi Arabia, said the daily. The United Nations remains adamant in its position and is taking just stands against Iraq which is totally committed to implementing the sanctions, the paper said. Depriving the Iraqis of the right to retrieve their own planes can only exacerbate the Iraqi population's sufferings and continue to impede the Iraqi authorities' drive to supply the people with food and medicine, the paper said. Such inhuman practices against the Iraqi people are violations of human rights and an immoral exercise against a U.N. member nation, the paper continued. The time has come for the Sanctions Committee at the United Nations to view objectively and positively the whole situation in light of the needs of the Iraqi people so that the Security Council can take a more positive and just resolution, demanded the paper. It said that being cruel to the Iraqis, under the pretext of international legitimacy, can by no means contribute to the establishment of security and peace in the Gulf.

FAHED AL Fanek, a columnist in Al Ra'i Saturday demanded that the present election law be changed because it does not cater in any way to the needs of the present stage of democracy and falls far short of meeting the requirements of justice. The writer said that the present law is a farce created by the 1986 Parliament which, at the time, did not have actual representation of the people. The election law divides the constituencies in a manner that does not reflect the actual distribution of the people and the opportunities for the candidates are not equal for winning, said the writer. He said that there are numerous loopholes in the present election law that make it obsolete, especially since the last experiment proved it to be difficult to apply equitably and fairly, continued the writer. He said that for example under the present law, a citizen can vote for six candidates in one area while in another constituency, a local citizen can only vote for two candidates. He said that a change of the law is a requirement by the present democracy to flourish and for political pluralism to be exercised in a more meaningful manner.

## As the dust settles post-referendum, expect more chaos

By John-Lee P. Holmes



support from the mass media, especially television. The two primary stations (the president nominates their principals) have given him hours of public access with little or no counter-vailing air time for Yeltsin opponents from within the Congress of People's Deputies.

The print media has been less one-sided, however. With respect to the largest dailies, Izvestia has supported Mr. Yeltsin in an editorial clash with Pravda, an advocate for Mr. Yeltsin's opponents. The public debate, by all accounts, has become increasingly shrill and didactic.

Amidst all of this posturing with respect to the content of the referendum and the compromise regarding the counting rules for the plebiscite was agreed upon by the constitutional court just days before the opening of the polls.

The court decided that of the four questions asked on the referendum — do you have confidence in the president; do you approve of the social and economic policies implemented since 1992; do you think elections for the president ought to be held; do you think elections for the congress ought to be held — the first two will be won by the side receiving over 50 per cent from among those who actually turn

out to vote (the procedure favoured by Mr. Yeltsin) and the latter two according to whether they can gain the approval of over 50 per cent of the total 106 million electorate (the procedure originally designated by the congress for all four questions).

Parliamentary Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov announced shortly after the court's decision, however, that his resistance to Mr. Yeltsin would not be halted unless he wins a total electorate majority and the speaker will not accept a turnout majority as granting Mr. Yeltsin a mandate.

The actual turnout counting rule, used by most governments in the world and statistically representative of the total electorate's opinion, was favoured by Mr. Yeltsin because the total electorate counting rule makes it mathematically very difficult to win. Even if Mr. Yeltsin achieved a high 80 per cent voter turnout (85 million voters) he would still need 54 million or 63 per cent of those turning out to vote to secure over 50 per cent of the total electorate as opposed to needing only 43 million to gain a majority under normal election procedures.

In the 1991 presidential contest, for example, Mr. Yeltsin

and Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi secured 57 per cent of those who voted. Yet this was only roughly a third of the total electorate.

Unfortunately, the constitutional court's compromise, while it may allow Mr. Yeltsin to squeeze past with a narrow margin on the first question (the second is even less likely to gain Mr. Yeltsin a "do" however), does not bode well for the last two. And this is a recipe for post-referendum chaos.

Even on the first question, recent polls project that Mr. Yeltsin is losing steam. A late March poll by the pro-radical reform Izvestia said some 60 per cent "trust" Mr. Yeltsin as opposed to only two per cent for Speaker Khasbulatov and 12 per cent for Vice-President Rutskoi. In the most recent survey, reported on the BBC Saturday, Mr. Yeltsin scored slightly less than the 50 per cent of likely voters.

Neither Mr. Khasbulatov nor Mr. Rutskoi is likely to endure as a national leader in his own right. Someone else will have to emerge to challenge Mr. Yeltsin. Mr. Khasbulatov is a Chechen at a time when Russian troops are engaging Chechen irregular forces in the breakaway republic.

Mr. Rutskoi, an Afghanistan war hero, helped secure the military and farmer vote for Mr. Yeltsin two years ago but has not been able to parlay any popular success from his recent turn against the president. The vice-president's actions and Mr. Yeltsin's counterattack have only had the effect of peeling off support from Mr. Yeltsin and have not benefited either Mr. Rutskoi or Mr. Khasbulatov.

As a result, even if the most likely scenario obtains — Mr. Yeltsin wins narrowly on the confidence vote but loses on the reform question — this will produce no mandate in either direction and there will be no one of stature to take Mr. Yeltsin's place.

On top of this, with respect to the latter two questions, it is likely that given the high, nearly insurmountable, hurdles set by the counting rules (and especially given the widely reported voter apathy) an outright sanctioning of new elections of the congress or the president will not be granted.

Most observers agree that a new election for the Congress of People's Deputies is a prerequisite for a resolution of the current political crisis. Indeed, long-term stability requires the drafting of a new constitution and the legitimacy of this pro-

cess is dependent upon the legislative and executive branches of government having sufficient authority to act on behalf of the Russian people.

It is quite conceivable that the voters who turn out will still form a majority in favour of elections, and Mr. Yeltsin has announced he will accept "joint" elections at the end of the year if he loses the referendum. But it will be difficult and will create a great deal of turmoil should a weakened Yeltsin attempt to force the congress to accept such elections.

The question of direct rule or rule by military decree will return. The ensuing political uncertainty and Mr. Yeltsin's diluted ability to enforce economic decisions in the provinces (now sanctioned by referendum deal-making) will render the donor nations increasingly reticent about releasing the promised immediate and long-term aid.

The West had hoped that economic reforms, while creating a degree of havoc, would be able to proceed with the immediacy they deserve and that political restructuring could follow in their wake. This misjudgment has been aggravated by a failure to provide the necessary monetary liquidity. More generous aid would have facilitated economic adjustment in an environment which better enabled political reforms to go forward within a relatively stable, albeit artificially buttressed, milieu.

Such a policy would have been financially expensive. But the present situation on the eve of Russia's referendum is not a terribly reassuring one either.

When a country possesses enough equivalent megatonnage to destroy the world some fourteen times over, as does Russia, the weighing of "expenses" becomes a far more complicated endeavor. The perennial question which western leaders ought to reassess is who — bankers or strategists — should determine the rules for such precarious yet vital strategic and economic balancing acts?

The writer, a Ph.D. student in international political economy and a teaching assistant for a course on nuclear weapons and foreign policy at the University of Virginia, is currently on the staff of the Jordan Times.

## King hopes for breakthrough

(Continued from page 1)

kind of peace which future generations can live with, protect and accept.

Q: Because we had the impression that the Palestinians are actually going to these talks reluctantly under pressure from Arab governments, including your own, and also because they know they haven't really got the support of Palestinians in the occupied territories?

A: I think conditions are intolerable in the occupied territories. The situation becomes worse as people are driven to despair. So let us hope that these negotiations will provide the window of hope that all deserve and need. I believe that the delegation that is going is with conviction and manifesting great courage provided the umbrella of the joint delegation to help the Palestinians to speak for themselves regarding their future. I hope it would be possible for them to do more. We will be supportive of Palestinians and trying to secure

their rights on their soil and we are for a comprehensive settlement and we will do all that we can towards that end. Let us hope that the elements of opposition to the only worthy cause a just and durable peace in the area on either side of the divide will not succeed in destroying this chance for all concerned in this area.

Q: Do you really think that the delegation has the support of the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank?

A: It is a challenging moment and all depends on the results. That are achieved in the coming talks. I hope also that it would be possible to work out all that would enable us to continue these talks, and that we would not fall hostage in the immediate future for any further action on the side of any to try to derail us from trying to achieve our objectives.

Q: Because we have Mr. Rabin saying that he is in no mood to make any concession to the

Palestinians either on deportations or the closure of the territories, on conditions inside the occupied territories. It is as if all the time Israel knows that it has got all the cards stacked in its favour?

A: If the result is failure — I hope that it would not be — it is not that the Arab side that is to be blamed for assuming a role in producing such a disaster. So let us wait and see.

Q: Do you think that you will have a better deal out of the Labour government in Israel so far than you have out of the Likud government?

A: It is too early to suggest that such is the case.

Q: Because some say there they could see no difference in the approach between Mr. Shamir and Mr. Rabin, except Mr. Peres saying that you can have self-rule, you can empty your dustbins and you can drive your own buses but basically you are not going to get independence?

A: I think that the basic difference is regarding the previous government in Israel, it started the process, but it wasn't convinced that it should be in power

when it achieved any of objectives that were obviously the target of all others — in terms of the solution based on 242, land for peace, the occupied territories of 1967, Palestinian rights on Palestinian soil. You may have the impression of the idea, the belief, that all that territory was Israeli. Now we see a different approach...

But I know that we are seeking a solution which future generations can live with and can protect, can feel has given them a chance to live in peace in that region. We have had too many obstacles in the very outset but let us hope that now we will proceed.

Q: What specifically does Jordan want out of these talks? Are you still hopeful one day you will get East Jerusalem back?

A: East Jerusalem is a part of the occupied territories. Jerusalem has to become in the context of peace the essence of peace between followers of the three monotheistic religions. East Jerusalem was occupied in June of 1967. When we speak of Arab Jerusalem we speak of the rights of the Christians and Muslims alike as well. So in the context of

peace I hope a formula would be found if we have the vision all of us would ensure that Jerusalem becomes a meeting place where the rights of all are preserved. Q: You have been on the throne nearly 40 years. Your are about to celebrate that fact. Aren't you feeling world-weary with all that you have been through, this time

and time again? Aren't you beginning to feel that this is too much of a burden that to carry? A: I do not believe it is as heavy as it has always been, but one has never lived for oneself or for the moment. If I succeed in bringing the region closer to peace it will be a kind of achievement of my struggle.

## Jordan urges movement of labour

(Continued from page 1)

safe and stable channels for commodities, interests and persons, and as junctions for national networks of roads, water, electricity and communication. This new concept has the virtue of bringing Arab countries closer to the experiments of regional economic conglomerates established by other groups of states that enjoy less cohesion and harmony than that enjoyed by the Arab states.

"We expect Arab universities to do a lot in circumventing quantitative achievements; concentrating on the capabilities of

graduates and the choice of their disciplines; encouraging research and the achievement of excellence; contributing to the development of society and establishing its production base; and taking active part in the process of creative thinking active part in the process of creative thinking and forming positive practices and consensuses in society. May the present decade witness beginnings that espouse such major tasks so that Arab societies may be enabled to achieve further progress, cooperation and freedom."



## Arab teams head for bilaterals

(Continued from page 1)

Husseini told about 300 merchants. "This is just talk. Those who are asking the delegation to withdraw should have a better alternative."

"This is not a battle for liberating Palestine," Mr. Husseini added. "We are trying to reach a political solution, not an ideological one."

Delegates Ghassan Khatib and Samir Abdullah of the communist People's Party have said they would stay away because Israel refuses to promise an end to expulsions.

The head of the delegation, Dr. Haider Abdul Shafi, told the Associated Press Friday he had not yet decided whether he would go to Washington. He said he had "full sympathy" for the two delegates who decided to stay away.

In the West Bank town of Ramallah, 35 relatives of expelled demonstrated Saturday outside the home of Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman of the delegation.

"Your people are damming you," shouted one woman when Mr. Husseini came out to talk to the protesters. "God will punish you," yelled another. "Where are our sons, husbands and brothers?" read a placard.

Mr. Husseini said the delegation would withdraw if nothing tangible was being achieved. Ten bodyguards carrying clubs watched the debate from two parked cars, but did not intervene. Security for Palestinian delegates has been tightened following threats by Muslim militants against them.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, vowed Saturday to intensify attacks against Israel to thwart the peace talks and abandoned reconciliation efforts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Ibrahim Ghosheh, spokesman for the Hamas faction, told a news conference in Amman the escalation in violence will be aimed against Israel's military rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But he stressed that Hamas will not attack other Palestinian factions or members of the Palesti-

nian negotiating team.

"The leadership of Hamas issued its instructions to all its cadres inside Palestine not to resort to violence against Palestinian people or organisations, but against the Zionist enemy," Mr. Ghosheh said.

Mr. Ghosheh, one of Hamas' representatives in Jordan, bitterly denounced the PLO leadership for agreeing to resume the peace talks.

He declared that Hamas will not attend a planned reconciliation meeting with the PLO scheduled for Monday in Khartoum, Sudan.

Mr. Ghosheh warned of "serious divisions that threaten the unity of the Palestinian people" over the peace talks.

In Marj Al Zuhur, Lebanon, the nearly 400 Palestinian expellees stranded in southeast Lebanon will march on Israeli army lines Monday to protest the resumption of the peace talks, their spokesman said Saturday.

The spokesman, Gaza physician Abdul Aziz Rantisi, also rejected the PLO call upon all Palestinians to close ranks behind the leadership's decision to resume the peace talks.

"In response to the grave decision to return to the talks and betrayal of the deportees' cause, we shall stage a new march toward Zommaraya Monday, the 26th of April," Dr. Rantisi told reporters.

Zommaraya is on the north-eastern edge of a self-styled "security zone" Israel occupies in South Lebanon.

The Damascus-based Fateh-Intifada led by Abu Musa which opposes the PLO warned the Palestinian delegates against going back to the negotiating table.

It held "the deviationist (PLO) leadership responsible for the resumption of the talks and warned the Palestinian delegation members of this policy's dangers."

The headline Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine has called on the Palestinians to stage a general strike on April 27, when the talks resume.

## Christopher: Meaningful Palestinian self-government possible

WASHINGTON (USIA) —

Secretary of State Warren Christopher says that "serious and meaningful Palestinian self-government is possible as an interim stage toward a negotiated final status."

Addressing the annual convention of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) Friday, Mr. Christopher said that the objective of the negotiating process "is a real peace that will see occupation give way to interim self-government arrangements and a new relationship between Israelis and Palestinians."

"This outcome must provide a peaceful and orderly transfer of authority to the Palestinians," he said.

A negotiated settlement in the Middle East, Mr. Christopher said, would be built on a number of principles, "including land for peace, the realisation of the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people, security for all parties, and the normalisation of relations in the area."

Mr. Christopher also discussed U.S. policy towards Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, as well as human rights, Islam and its perceived threats to U.S. interests.

"Tonight, I would like to state clearly that Islam is not our enemy," Mr. Christopher stressed. "Nor do we consider Islam a threat to world peace or to regional security."

Peace Process  
As you know, two days ago, the parties agreed to return to the peace talks in Washington next Tuesday, April 27th, after a five-month hiatus. We welcome this

development. Too much time has been lost. Now is the time for real progress, and now is the time to help the peacemakers — not those determined to destroy any possibility of making peace in the region. Together, we must seize the chance to negotiate a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace settlement, based upon United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

"The promise of peace — the benefits that will flow from peace — are becoming more apparent to all the parties. A negotiated settlement would be built on a number of principles, including land for peace, the realisation of the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people, security for all parties, and the normalisation of relations in the area."

From the outset of this Administration, President Clinton has made clear his commitment to promoting peace in the Middle East. And we have been working hard to bring the Israelis and Arabs and Palestinians back to the negotiating table so that we can move ahead to grasp the promise of peace.

My role is to be a diplomat, not a dreamer. Diplomacy can produce concrete results. The United States is playing an active role — not only as co-sponsor of the process, but as a full partner in the search for solutions. We are doing our part, and we are looking to the parties to do theirs to take advantage of this historic moment for the region.

In helping the parties work through the issues, we recognise the political realities each faces at home. The Palestinians are under great pressure, and we must work with them and the Israelis to help demonstrate that negotiations lead to tangible results. And I want to commend the Palestinians leaders for making the difficult and courageous decision to return to the negotiating table.

Bilateral Negotiations  
In the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, serious and meaningful Palestinian self-government is possible as an interim stage toward a negotiated final status.

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Yeltsin issues last appeal to voters  
(Continued from page 1) semi-feudal, semi-colonial capitalism based on "criminal-type mafiosi and Western entrepreneurs."

Mr. Khasbulatov has joined forces with Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi who last week said he had "11 suitcases full of compromising material" on senior government members implicating them in illegal deals with foreign firms.

Mr. Rutskoi's claims at the heart of growing discontent among Russians.

Indeed, the objective of this process is a real peace that will see occupation give way to interim self-government arrangements and a new relationship between Israelis and Palestinians. This outcome must provide a peaceful and orderly transfer of authority to the Palestinians.

In the bilateral talks between Israel and Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan, the parties have been addressing the core issues of territory, security and peace. This is the right track. With continued commitment and hard work, the parties involved can find that peace is increasingly possible, desirable and even irresistible.

Other Objectives  
Let me turn for a moment to my recent trip to the Middle East. The president sent me there in February with several other objectives in mind. I wanted to demonstrate support for Lebanon. I wanted to reaffirm the American commitment to Persian Gulf security, and restate our policy toward Iraq and our concerns about Iran. Let me brief you on some of my impressions.

My visit (to Lebanon) was intended to underscore the United States' support for the efforts of the Lebanese to recover from that war, to regain its sovereignty and independence and to rebuild its economy. A strong central government is vital to these objectives. A key to the extension of Lebanese government authority throughout the country is the maintenance of strong, government-controlled armed forces. I am pleased that we have been able to restart the IMET programme — the International Military Education and Training Programme — for the Lebanese

armed forces. I also want to emphasise that we continue to support full implementation of both the letter and spirit of the Taif accord. This includes the disarming of all militias and the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon.

Concerning Iraq, President Clinton has clearly reaffirmed the continuity of our policy. I want to take this occasion to stress that Iraq must fully comply with all U.N. resolutions.

We bear no ill toward the people of Iraq, whose suffering is the direct responsibility of the present regime. In fact, we continue to fund relief programmes in northern Iraq and to support U.N. efforts to establish relief in central and southern Iraq. The Iraqi people deserve a government that is representative of Iraq's pluralistic society, that is committed to the territorial integrity and unity of Iraq, and that neither commits crimes against its own people nor threatens its neighbours.

When I was in the Middle East, I also found deep distrust of Iran's intentions and potential capabilities. Iran is an important country that could make significant contributions to the international community. But first, it must end behaviour which threatens its neighbours and seeks to undermine the pursuit of peace. Iran must end its support of terrorism, its acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and its effort to undermine the peace process. We will work with our friends in the region and with other nations to make sure that Iran's leaders understand the high costs of continuing to pursue destabilising policies.

Under the Patronage of H.E. The Minister of Social Development For the benefit of: Al Razi Centre for Special Education A grand auction will be held at: FORTE GRAND HOTEL (Formerly Plaza Hotel) Inauguration & Exhibition: Saturday May 1st, 1993 11 a.m. SALE: Sunday & Monday May 2nd & 3rd, 1993 at 5 p.m. Articles on sale: Antique Chinois, Gallé and Sevres vases, Damascene salon, bronze statues, Turkish, English and French silverware Supervisors: Al Afghani Office General Manager: Ziad Sakijha Auctioneer: Saad Al Masri Tel.: 622617 / 638031 Your exhibits are welcome!

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Democracy, Human Rights and Islam

The promotion of democracy and respect for human rights is one of the three pillars of President Clinton's foreign policy. I know, however, that there is concern, both within and outside the region, over Islamic fundamentalism and its effect on the stability and policies of many of these countries.

Tonight, I would like to state clearly that Islam is not our enemy. Nor do we consider Islam a threat to world peace or to regional security. What we do oppose is extremism or fanaticism, whether of a religious or secular nature. We part company with those who preach intolerance, abuse human rights, or resort to violence in pursuit of their political goals.

While we cannot impose our own form of government on others, we strongly support those who share and seek to encourage democratic values in their countries. As with the peace process, the United States stands ready to work with our friends in the region toward the important goals of peace, stability and social justice.

In the end, of course, it will be up to the people and the governments of the Middle East to shape the future of their region. If they are successful, the benefits of true peace and prosperity will fall to future generations of Muslims, Jews and Christians, for the first time in these ancient lands.

I want you to know that this president and this secretary of state intend to move the peace process forward, to remain engaged, and to retain the trust of all parties to this historic quest.

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## Edberg upset by wind and Pioline

MONTE CARLO (R) — Swirling winds and the dogged determination of unseeded Frenchman Cedric Pioline blew top seed Stefan Edberg out of the \$1.65-million Monte Carlo Open Saturday.

The Swede, clearly perturbed by a Mediterranean gale which sent clouds of dust blowing across court, lost 6-4 6-4 in one of the biggest upsets of the tournament.

The on-form Pioline, who had beaten third seed Petr Korda of the Czech Republic Thursday, became the first Frenchman to reach the final in Monte Carlo since Yannick Noah in 1986.

But though Pioline deserved credit for an enterprising game in which he put a lot of pressure on Edberg, the wind reduced the match to a lottery which would have been more suited to the nearby casino.

Edberg's usually deadly volley was a blunt weapon for once. He put away just one winning volley in the entire match and, appropriately enough, lost on Pioline's fourth match point by putting a backhand volley into the net.

The 23-year-old Parisian advanced to only the second final of his career. In his first last year in



Austrian Thomas Muster (left) and Spanish Alex Corretja shake hands after their quarterfinal match at the Monte Carlo Open. Muster beat Corretja to qualify for the semifinals to face Sergi Bruguera (AFP photo)

Lyon, he lost heavily in straight sets to American Pete Sampras.

On Sunday he will attempt to become the first Frenchman to win in the principality in 30 years

when he plays either last year's winner Thomas Muster of Austria or the 1991 champion Sergi Bruguera of Spain.

## Navratilova and Co. stay away

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Putting together a high-profile tennis team to represent the United States in international competition is no easy task these days.

First, the top men's players like Pete Sampras, Jim Courier, Andre Agassi and Michael Chang passed up the Davis Cup and their replacements were eliminated by Australia in the first round last month. Now the marquee women are unavailable for this summer's Federation Cup.

The United States Tennis Association chose Pam Shriver, Lori McNeil, Lindsay Davenport and Ann Grossman for July 19-26 event at Frankfurt, Germany. McNeil owns the highest ranking of the four at No. 19. Shriver is No. 28, Davenport No. 41 and Grossman No. 47.

Conspicuous by their absence were more familiar names like Martina Navratilova, Mary Joe Fernandez and Jennifer Capriati, all ranked among the top seven players in the world.

"What's going on here? We were a little disappointed that we couldn't get a team with higher rankings," said Dr. Gary Lee, co-chairman of the USTA's Federation Cup Committee. "Every one of those other players had prior commitments."

The United States has won 14 Federation Cup titles, more than



Martina Navratilova

any other nation, but has not won the title since 1990. Both Shriver and McNeil played on the Federation Cup team last year that lost in the semifinals to Germany.

Shriver will be playing Federation Cup for the eighth time and McNeil for the fifth.

Davenport, 16, is a product of the USTA's Player Development Programme and started the year ranked No. 159. Grossman, 22, was a member of the 1988 USTA national team and reached the fourth round of the 1989 and 1990 French Opens.

Marty Riessen, captain of the team for eight years, said, "we've got a mix of some more mature players and some young, up-and-coming players. Pam and Lori are very patriotic and are always willing to play Federation Cup."

Still, Lee said, tennis fans have to look at the roster and wonder about it.

"Martina is playing team tennis," he said. "Mary Joe and Jennifer are committed to an event in New Jersey. Hopefully, next year we will be able to prevent these conflicts."

## CIS lifters win gold medals

SOFIA (AP) — Armenian Khatchik Kapamaksian and Ukrainian Alexander Blyshchik won gold Friday on the third day of the European Weightlifting Championships.

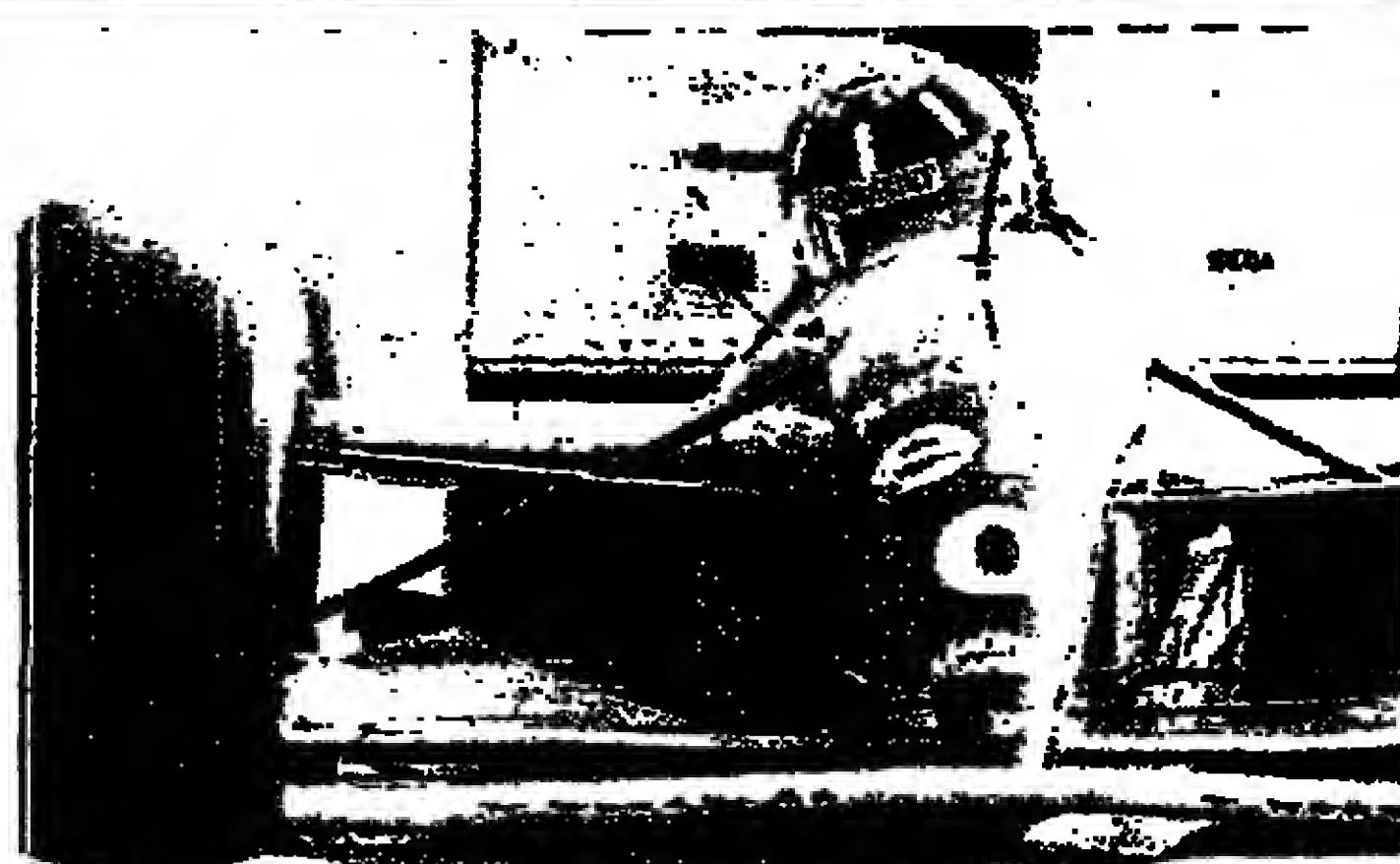
It was Kapamaksian's first European title in the category up to 76 kilograms (167 pounds). Blyshchik gave Ukraine its first gold in the category up to 83 kilos (183 pounds).

Kapamaksian, 24, was second after the snatch but won with a total of 362.5 kilos (799 pounds) in the combination after hoisting 197.5 kilos (435 pounds) in the clean and jerk lift.

Second in the category up to 76 kilos (168 pounds) was Byelarusian Oleg Kinchko who totalled 360 kilos (793 pounds) in the combination. The Pole Anzhe Kozlowski scored as high, but the Byelarusian lifter was lighter.

Blyshchik, 27, who was second at the 1991 World Championship, snatched 175 kilos (385 pounds), winning the first place in that event.

He lifted 205 kilos (452 pounds) in the clean and jerk and edged the Pole Krzysztof Siemion, sixth after snatching 165 kilos (363 pounds) and lifting 207.5 kilos (457 pounds) in the clean and jerk.



British driver Damon Hill on Williams-Renault set the best time during the first qualifying session Friday for the San Marino Grand Prix (AFP photo)

## Prost on pole by one-tenth of a second

IMOLA, Italy (R) — Frenchman Alain Prost took pole position for Sunday's San Marino Grand Prix by just one-tenth of a second in a thrilling, closely-fought final qualifying session Saturday.

Prost, driving a Williams, clocked a best time of one minute 22.070 seconds at an average speed of 221.08 kph midway through the session.

Williams team mate Damon Hill of Britain, on provisional pole position overnight, mounted a tremendous challenge to produce a time of 1:22.168.

German Michael Schumacher was third quickest in his Benetton ahead of Brazilian Ayrton Senna in a McLaren.

Schumacher had his Friday times reinstated Saturday after a further inquiry into his alleged use of illegal tyre compounds.

Senna, the championship leader and, like Prost, a three times world champion, crashed as he tried to do everything he could to improve his time in his Ford-powered car.

The Brazilian, who crashed twice Friday, spun off the track at the acute minerale corner and hit the barriers.

He was unhurt and later produced a better time in team mate Michael Andretti's car, but it was not enough to improve his grid position.

Austrian Karl Wendlinger showed the huge promise of the new Swiss Sauber team by clocking the fifth best time.

Andretti's Friday times had been annulled and he desperately needed to do well to boost his confidence after a poor start to his first season in Formula One.

### SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Caniggia to seek reduction of suspension

ROME (AP) — Argentine national team and AS Roma striker Claudio Caniggia hopes an appeal can reduce his 13-month-suspension for cocaine use, an AS Roma team official said. AS Roma vice president Aldo Paquali said the club will appeal the suspension and a 100-million-lire (\$66,600) fine imposed by the Italian Soccer Tribunal on the club for indirect responsibility in the case. "It's a sad moment for Claudio, but he's looking forward to continuing his career with Roma and with his national team," Paquali said. He said the 26-year-old forward has expressed his desire to play with Argentina in the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

#### Rominger, Delgado favourites in Tour of Spain

MADRID (AP) — Spaniard Pedro Delgado may be the sentimental pick in this year's Tour of Spain and defending champion Tony Rominger the logical choice. Whatever happens, this is likely to be the last chance either aging cyclist has of winning one of Europe's three major cycling tours. The 21-day marathon — 3,576.3 kilometres (2,217.3 miles) across Spain — begins Monday in the northwestern port of La Coruna and ends May 16 just 60 kilometres down the road in the neighbouring Galician city of Santiago de Compostela.

#### Athletico in Cup protest

MADRID (AP) — Atletico Madrid Saturday protested to the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) over the handling of their Cup Winners' Cup semi-final second leg against Parma on Thursday by German referee Aron Schmidhuber. Athletico, who won the game but lost the tie on aggregate, have asked for a protest to be made to UEFA and are angry that they were not awarded two penalties.

#### Sanchez Vicario advances to semifinals

BARCELONA (AP) — Top-seeded Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez Vicario advanced to the semifinals of the \$375,000 La Familia Open with a 7-5, 6-1 victory over No. 6-seeded Mary Pierce of France. Sanchez Vicario plays in the semifinals against No. 4 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa. Coetzer defeated No. 5-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria Friday 6-4, 4-0. Maleeva retired from the final set with blisters on her racket hand. In another quarterfinal, No. 7 Sabine Hack of Germany defeated Italy Federica Bonsignori 6-0, 7-5. Hack will face Conchita Martinez in the other semifinal. Martinez defeated Laura Golarsa of Italy 6-1, 6-3.

#### Nunn retains WBA title

MEMPHIS (R) — American Michael Nunn built his career as a fancy boxer, but he was a ruthless puncher Friday, knocking down Briton Ashley Crawford five times to retain his World Boxing Association super-middleweight championship. The left-handed Nunn knocked down Crawford twice in the fifth round and put him down three more times in the sixth, all with left-handed body blows. The three-knockdown rule was in effect, requiring the fight to be stopped if a fighter was knocked down three times in one round. Nunn dropped Crawford the last time with one second remaining in the sixth round. "You see when I'm aggressive," Nunn said. "I'm a bulldog. I showed that."

#### Bayern Munich flatten Saarbruecken 6-0

BONN (R) — Mehmet Scholl fired three goals as Bayern Munich steamrollered tiny Saarbruecken 6-0 Friday to widen their lead in the Bundesliga. Second-placed Werder Bremen drew 0-0 with Cologne to slip two points behind Bayern.

## Little League Baseball

### Results of games played April 23:

<b>Coach Pitch Division</b>	<b>Kid Pitch Division</b>
Modern Schools — 12	Mag — 11
Epson — 14	Grundfus — 8
Sipes — 8	Beta — 16
Alphacan — 14	Al Maaden — 9

### STANDINGS:

<b>Coach Pitch Division</b>	<b>Kid Pitch Division</b>
1. Alphacan W-2, L-0	1. Mag W-2, L-0
2. Sipes W-1, L-1	2. Grundfus W-1, L-1
3. Epson W-1, L-1	3. Beta W-1, L-1
4. Modern Schools W-0, L-2	4. Al Maaden W-0, L-2

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY APRIL 25, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Avoid that pal who loves to gossip and makes you nervous — as you carry through with your commitments to others who are depending on you. Show tact in handling other annoying problems he diplomatically.

**ARIES:** March 21 to April 19 Get into whatever practical matters are facing you, see them as they actually are, handle them and tonight have a happy romantic evening with your mate.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Query whatever associates are about as to how you and they can be more effective in whatever your joint interests happen to be, tonight go to new sites with a partner.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Approach every phase of your daily duties as though you can get sidetracked — you have not considered before and you make big progress with tasks.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Make arrangements for a pleasant time for today and the new week during the day and in the evening show special affection for your mate.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Whatever you have in mind about home and clan can now be worked out by a more serious and investigative approach and tonight entertain at your home.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Consider well the sources

where you can gain the knowledge that will make your daily routines more productive and put them into motion at once.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Your present material situation requires some study and better awareness how to rightly handle your assets and liabilities, tonight discuss money with an expert.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You can preoccupy yourself with whatever your personal desires happen to be during the day and make out well, but tonight be out with good friends.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Look at whatever has been troubling you and you will be able to view it in a more constructive light and get it in back of you by steadfastness.

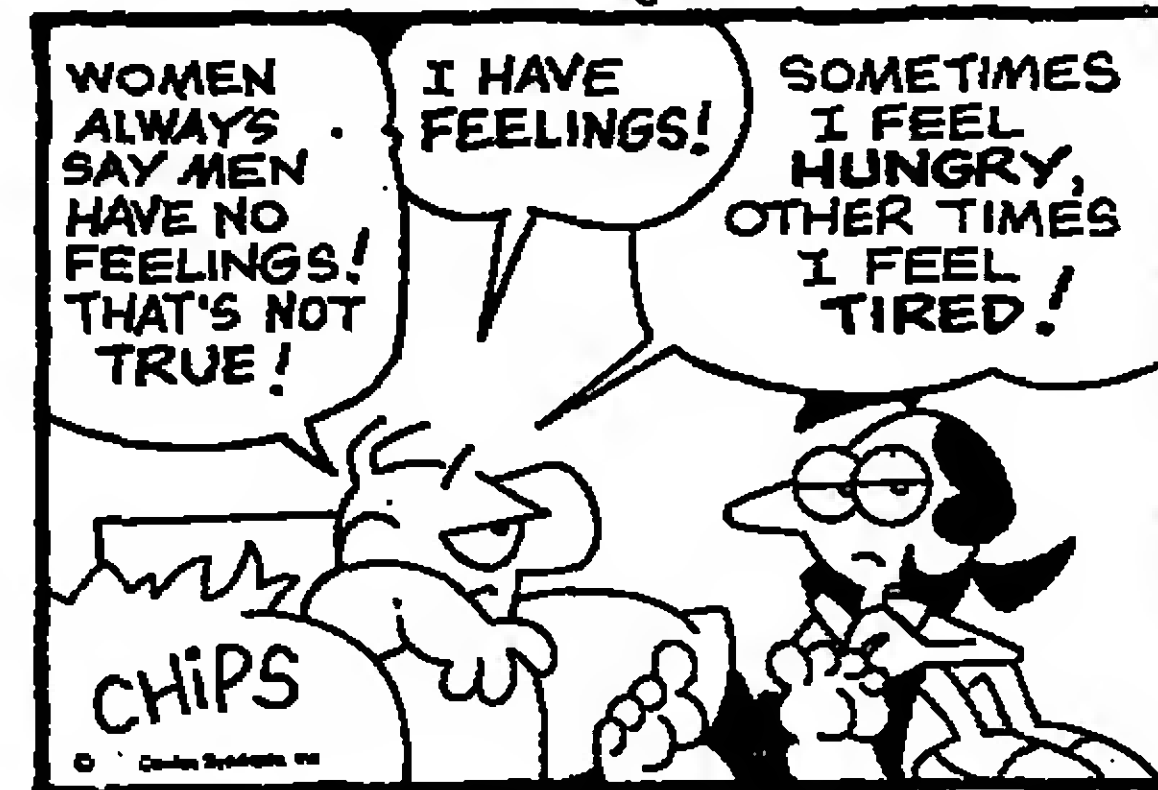
**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Whatever you feel is the best place for you to get the things you have been looking for is your best means for procuring them more readily.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) If you have any worldly situation requiring careful thought and especially where credit is concerned, now is the day to handle with care caution.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Think about the new goals that activate you and delve into them to you become expert in understanding them and you aid your growth and success.

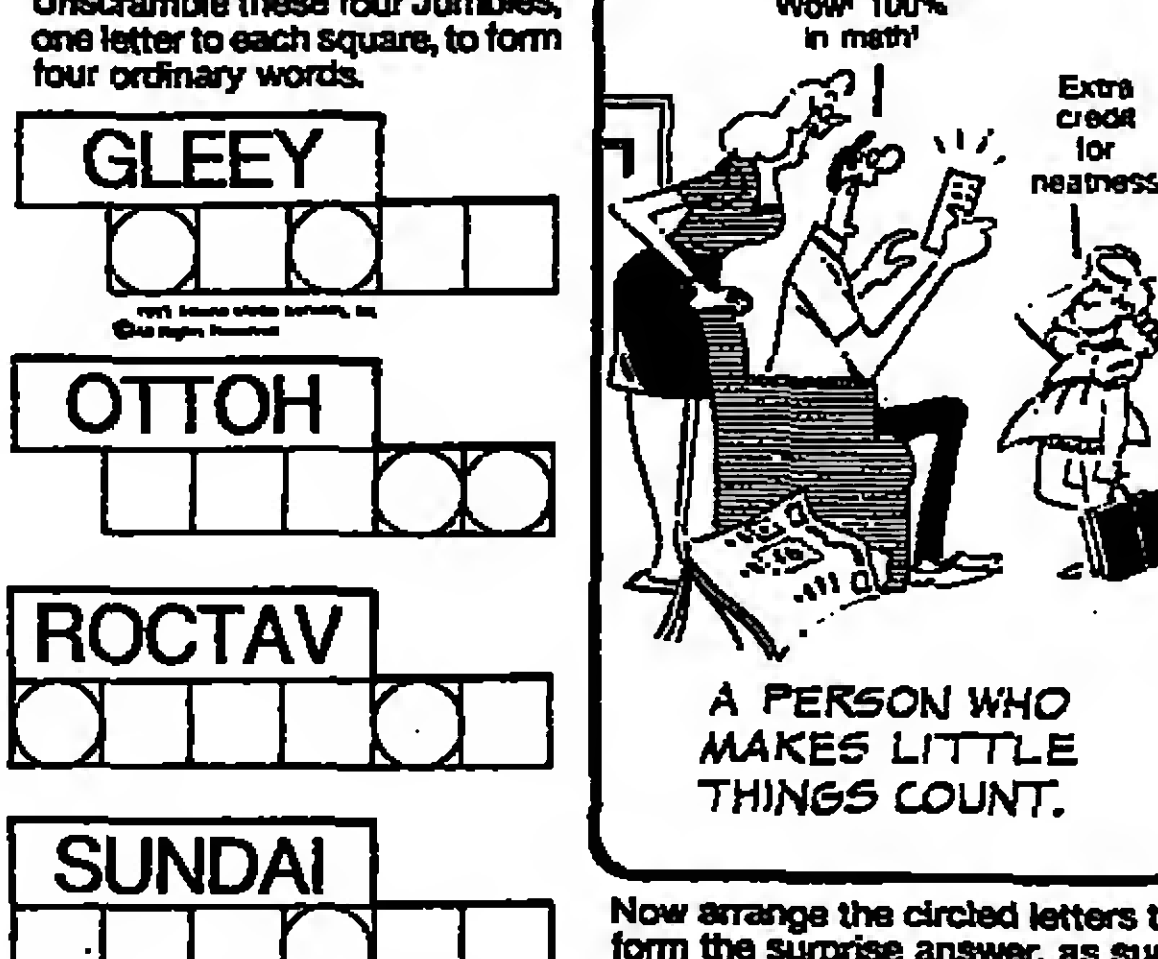
## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



## JUMBLE

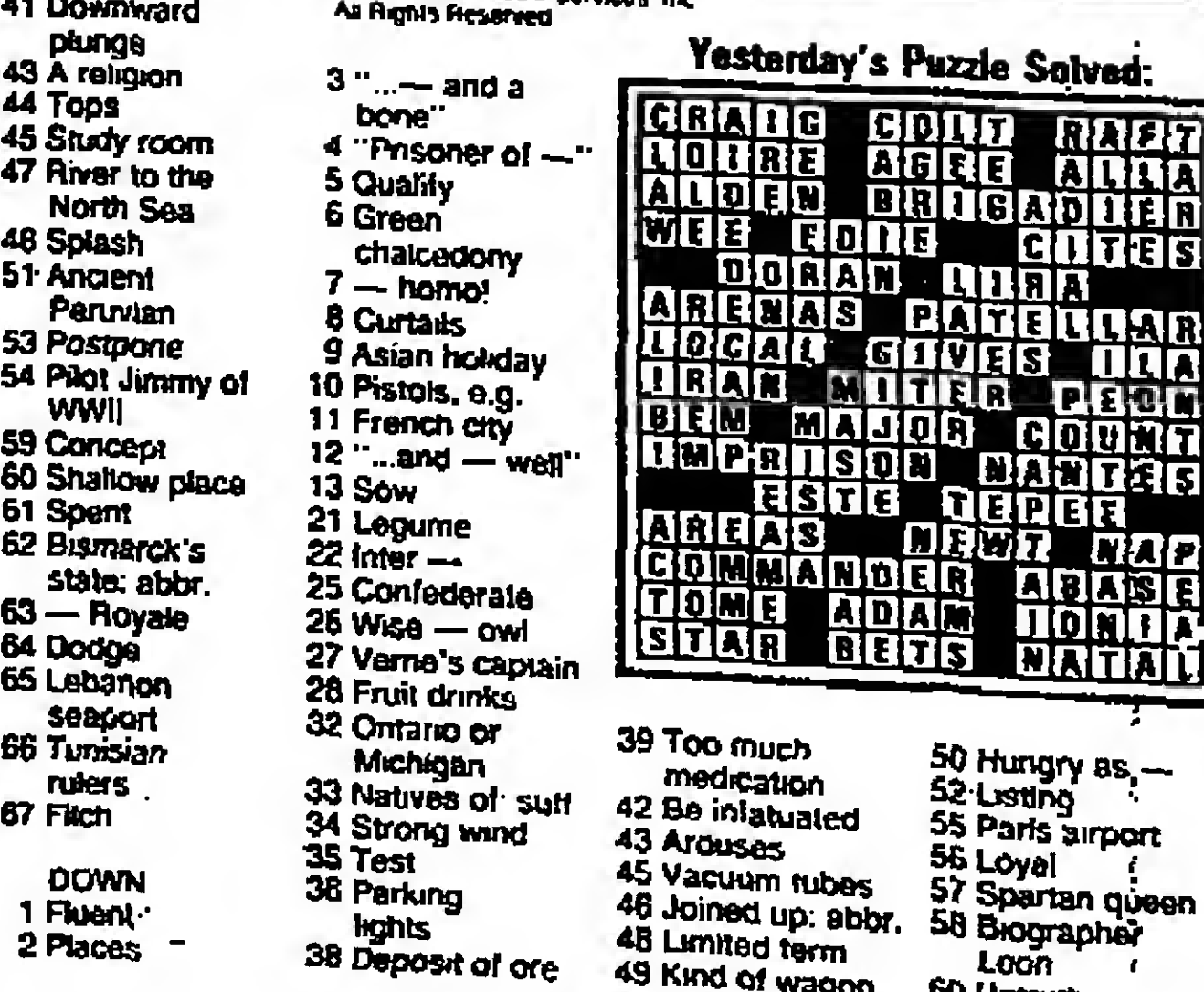
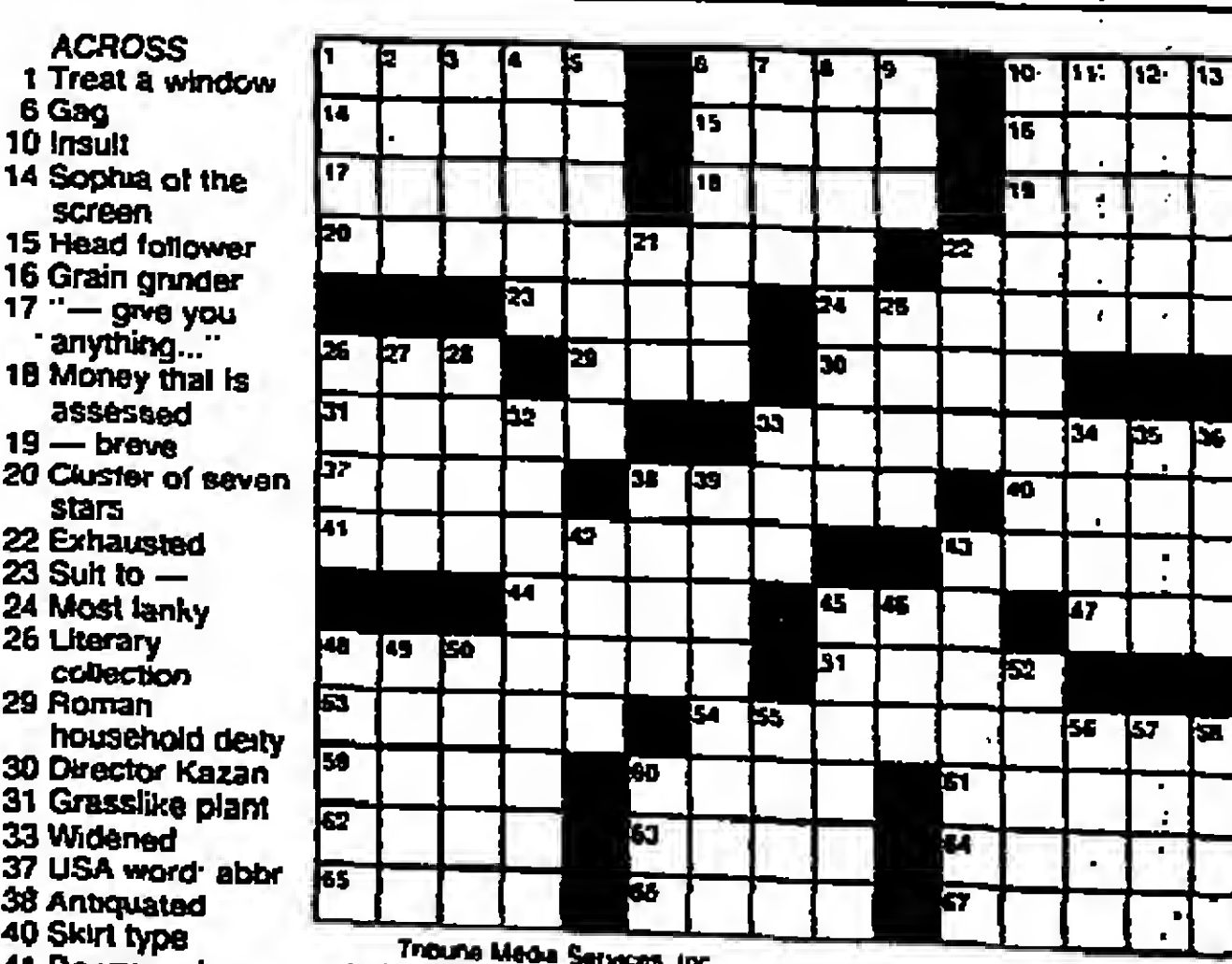
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: MAXIM INKED SATIRE DEVICE  
Answer: What the terrible-tempered sugar grower did — RAISED CANE

## THE Daily Crossword by Melvin Konwarthy



## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNIA HIRSCH  
Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### A LESSON IN SUIT ESTABLISHMENT

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 5  
♥ K 6 4  
♦ K Q 7 4 3  
♣ A K 6 2

**EAST**  
♠ Q 10 4  
♥ 7 9 8 7 5  
♦ 10 5  
♣ Q 10 8

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 9 6 3 2  
♥ A Q J 3  
♦ A 6  
♣ A 4 3

The bidding: South West North East

1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass 3♠ Pass 4♠ Pass 5♠ Pass 6♠ Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♣

We are indebted to *Bridge Today* for this fine hand by Terence Reese. The winning line is simple, yet not easy to spot, even looking at all four hands.

Suppose you reach six hearts via an auction such as the above. The Moysian 4-3 fit should play very well and, allowing for the normal 4-2

breaks in the red suits, it's easy to count 12 tricks — one spade, four hearts, four diamonds, two clubs and a spade ruff in dummy. The fly in the ointment is how to take them.

Suppose that after ruffing a spade, you draw trumps and start on diamonds. When you surrender a diamond trick to the enemy, they will have at least one spade to cash. And if you try to set up the diamonds by ruffing one early, you could relinquish trump control to the enemy, or fall a trick short even with favorable splits.

The solution is to win the opening lead on the board and immediately duck a diamond! The best that the opponents can do is lead another trump. You win in hand, cash the ace of spades and ruff a spade, then return to hand with the ace of diamonds to draw the outstanding trumps. The last five tricks are scored by the table's ace-king of clubs and the three good diamonds.

Not a play that is beyond the powers of the average player. The secret, however, is in spotting the necessity of giving up a diamond early in the play.







## Bosnian Serb leader baulks again at U.N. peace plan

BELGRADE (R) — Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic refused to support a revised U.N. peace plan Saturday and accused the West of pushing warring Muslims, Croats and Serbs "to get together like dog and cat."

He met peace envoy Lord Owen to discuss changes to the plan which Lord Owen said Serbs could "settle with honour" before Monday when the U.N. has set a deadline for the imposition of harsher sanctions on Serb-led Yugoslavia.

After three hours of talks, Mr. Karadzic condemned the plan as anti-Serbian and said he would not ask the Bosnian Serb parliament to sign it at a decisive session Sunday.

"I will not recommend the parliament either to accept or reject," he told reporters in Belgrade. "I am going to present the facts. It has to be done by the people."

Mr. Karadzic claimed the plan to divide Bosnia into 10 ethnic cantons would force 500,000 Serbs to flee their homes in areas under Muslim or Croat control.

"If we accept this, we are finished in these regions," he added. "Why are you pushing us to get together like dog and cat? Its simply impossible to live together. We have to separate to be good neighbours."

Bosnian Muslims and Croats have already signed the plan drawn up by Lord Owen and co-mediator Cyrus Vance.

Lord Owen, clearly angered, refused to comment on the appa-

rent collapse of his diplomacy to avert new sanctions and the threat of Western air strikes against Bosnia Serb supply lines.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said at a European Community meeting in Denmark that the United States, France and Britain would discuss next week whether to use military force.

Lord Owen had hoped to persuade Mr. Karadzic to support a U.N.-controlled corridor across a Croat sector of north Bosnia which would link Serb enclaves separated by the cantonal frontiers.

"If anybody's had any doubts about the proposal for the northern corridor, just remember that the Berlin corridor kept us away from a third world war for 30 years," Lord Owen said before he met Mr. Karadzic.

Diplomats said an even bigger obstacle to Serb agreement than the northern corridor was the plan's allocation of Bosnia's eastern region, on the Serbian border, to Muslims.

Mr. Karadzic hinted at this when he said Lord Owen "does not allow any discussion of the structure of the (ethnic) maps. He only recommended various arrangements on the right of passage."

Serbs regard the area as strategically vital and have expelled most of the Muslim population since the start of the civil war a year ago.

Hostility to U.N. mediation hardened at a meeting of the Serb

parliament in Novi Grad in northeast Bosnia despite strong pressure from Yugoslav leaders to head off sanctions.

Bosnian Serb Vice-President Biljana Plavcic said Mr. Karadzic's stance was "the only correct thing to do. Lord Owen's offer was a big trick on the Serb people camouflaged as a concession."

Lord Owen left Belgrade later to meet Croatian President Franjo Tudjman and Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic.

Scores of people have been killed in the past week in an upsurge of fighting in central Bosnia between Muslim and Croat forces who used to be allied against the Serbs.

Sarajevo Radio said Mr. Izetbegovic accused the Croatian Defence Force (HVO) in Bosnia of trying to carve out a state within a state and intended to ask Mr. Tudjman "what he really wants."

British U.N. forces in the war zone said a ceasefire was starting to stabilise and that both sides were starting to withdraw fighting units.

They reported that HVO units had laid mines to prevent British armoured vehicles approaching burning Muslim villages.

Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Friday cancelled a visit to Zagreb to receive an honorary university degree because she was appalled by "horrific attacks by Croats on Muslims" in Bosnia.

A senior aide to President Izetbegovic dismissed Mr. Karadzic

as "completely mad" Saturday after his rejection of the modified peace plan.

Kemal Mufic, counsellor to Mr. Izetbegovic, said the president had been expecting the rejection when he met the Sarajevo just before the news came through with a U.N. Security Council delegation.

The Bosnian president told the Security Council delegation that his signature of the original plan still stood, and said that if the plan foundered, the Security Council would have to be prepared to use force against the Serbs and except the outgunned Bosnian army from an arms embargo against all ex-Yugoslavia.

Meanwhile, the self-proclaimed Serb republics in Bosnia and Croatia agreed to merge their parliaments Saturday but stopped short of formally uniting.

A joint session of the parliaments in the northeast Bosnian town of Bosanski Novi on the border with Croatia voted by 152 to two in favour of the measure, with six abstentions.

The unrecognised republics, created by rebel Serbs since Croatia and Bosnia left former Yugoslavia, decided to pursue common policies but to retain their own presidents and governments.

Political leaders said they could move quickly towards full unification if the west tightened sanctions against Yugoslavia or launched air strikes against Bosnian Serbs.



A British U.N. soldier tries to locate a sniper firing on British positions from a hill above the partly destroyed village of Jelenak in Bosnia (AFP photo)

## Massive blast rocks London

LONDON (AP) — An explosion rocked London's financial district Saturday, showering passerby with flying glass and injuring at least 34 people.

Police reported no deaths. St. Bartholomew's Hospital reported receiving 24 injured, among them five seriously wounded, while London Hospital said it admitted 10 people for shock and glass wounds.

Police said they feared more injured people remained trapped or incapacitated inside bomb-damaged buildings.

The blast shattered glass in scores of bank buildings and businesses, among them the 52-storey National Westminster Tower, the financial district's tallest structure.

No one immediately claimed

responsibility for the blast. However, suspicion focused on the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which has frequently set off bombs in Britain as part of its 23-year campaign to end British rule of Northern Ireland.

Police said they received two coded telephone warnings, one 40 minutes before the blast at 10:27 a.m. local time (0927 GMT).

Near the scene of the blast, a young man sat trembling with his head in his hands on a traffic island near Bank Subway Station. Witnesses said he had been blown backwards by the blast. He would talk neither to police nor reporters.

About a quarter mile away, hundreds of delegates at the annual meeting of the European

Bank for Reconstruction and Development were "shaken but not shaken" and continued their discussions of aid to Eastern Europe, said spokeswoman Rebecca Hill.

The IRA had suspended bombing in England after killing two boys aged 3 and 12 in a double bomb attack March 20 on a crowded shopping precinct in Warrington, northwest England. The atrocity provoked large anti-IRA rallies in London and Dublin.

"Warrington gave them very bad publicity," said Colonel Mike Dewar.

Col. Dewar said the IRA clearly was sending the signal Saturday that, despite the furor over the Warrington deaths, their campaign will continue.

## ANC Chairman Oliver Tambo dies

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — African National Congress (ANC) Chairman Oliver Tambo, who led the group's anti-apartheid struggle for three decades from exile, died early Saturday.

Mr. Tambo, 75, died of a stroke in Johannesburg's Milpark private hospital. He was admitted Friday for observation following a chest infection, the ANC said. The ANC moved quickly to calm tension in black townships where violence erupted after the assassination of former ANC guerrilla leader and Communist Party chief Chris Hani exactly two weeks ago.

"We urge ANC supporters to act with restraint. Comrade Tambo died of natural causes. We do not believe we will see the same reaction that followed the assassination of Chris Hani," ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said.

The independent Human Rights Commission said Friday at least 72 people were killed after the upsurge of violence over the Hani murder. Police have arrested rightwing Polish immigrant Janusz Walus.

Mr. Tambo was the third South African political leader to die within two weeks. Andries Treurnicht, 72, leader of the pro-apartheid Conservative Party, died in Cape Town Thursday.



Oliver Tambo

South African leaders paid tribute to Mr. Tambo, who led the 30-year armed struggle against Pretoria's apartheid policies from London and Lusaka and was formally president of the ANC from 1978 until Nelson Mandela, 74, took over in July 1991.

Reformist President F.W. de Klerk, who started dismantling apartheid in February 1990, said Mr. Tambo had always been supportive of the peace process. The ANC leader returned home in December 1990 after Mr. de Klerk lifted the ban on the ANC.

"Mr. Tambo was known internationally due to his presidency of the ANC over so many years. I only met him once, on which occasion we had a very construc-

tive discussion," Mr. de Klerk said.

"Ever since his return to South Africa, Mr. Tambo was always supportive of the peace process and he played a positive role with regard to the negotiation process."

"For that, the government and I have appreciation. In this regard, he was an example worthy of being followed," he said in a statement.

Mr. Mandela said Saturday the death of his predecessor Oliver Tambo, combined with the slaying of Mr. Hani, was "a very serious blow" to the movement.

Speaking at a media conference here, Mr. Mandela said the loss of Mr. Tambo could exacerbate the growing frustration and bitterness of South Africa's "very angry" young blacks.

"The community, and in particular the youth, are very angry indeed. It is a very volatile situation and I think the death of Tambo will deepen the anger and bitterness on the part of the youth," he said.

Mr. Mandela also warned Mr. Tambo's death, along with the loss of Mr. Hani, would affect the negotiations process because the ANC had lost great minds and great advisors.

But he added they would not have a long-term effect on the transition process, which was by now "irreversible."

## Pakistani police use tear-gas as Sharif arrives

KARACHI, Pakistan (R) — Deposed Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif arrived in Karachi Saturday to a tumultuous welcome from thousands of supporters and police sprayed tear-gas into a crowd waiting to see him.

"Long live Nawaz Sharif, long live Nawaz Sharif," supporters shouted when Mr. Sharif arrived at Karachi Airport from the Punjab provincial capital Lahore, his power-base.

Sitting cross-legged on the roof of a yellow taxi, Mr. Sharif waved and flashed victory signs to the cheering crowd that pelted him with rose petals as he drove out of the airport in a huge procession.

Mr. Sharif was sacked last Sunday by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan for alleged corruption and terrorising his opponents after a bitter two-month power struggle between the country's two top leaders.

During his tenure as national security Minister, Mr. Athulath-

## Sri Lankan police find body of former minister's suspected killer

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan police Saturday said they had found a body of a young man suspected of having assassinated opposition leader Lalith Athulathmudali.

They identified a body found near the rally grounds where Mr. Athulathmudali, 57, was gunned down while addressing a political meeting Friday, as that of 25-year-old Appaiya Balakrishnan.

Police said Mr. Balakrishnan was wearing a blood-stained blue tee shirt and a revolver.

They do not know how he died but said there was foam around the mouth indicating the man may have taken cyanide, an act typical of guerrillas of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatists.

During his tenure as national security Minister, Mr. Athulath-

mudali was responsible for spearheading the National Security Forces' war against the Tigers.

The funeral of the leader of the Democratic United Liberation Front, who was campaigning for elections to seven regional councils when he was shot, will be held Wednesday.

The government has offered a five million rupee (\$106,000) reward for the killer's capture.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa condemned the attack, saying in a condolence message that "every right-thinking person should condemn the killing."

But members of the opposition Democratic United National Front, of which Mr. Athulathmudali was a leader, accused a government death squad of the murder.

Mr. Premadasa asked detec-

tives from Britain's Scotland Yard, the criminal investigative division of the London Metropolitan Police, to help look into the killing.

Sri Lanka has called in foreign investigators in the past to help local police probe political assassinations.

Mr. Athulathmudali, minister of national security, trade and education between 1977 and 1991, was leading a strong opposition challenge to Mr. Premadasa's ruling United National Party (UNP) at the crucial regional polls.

The UNP controls all seven provincial councils, which have wide regional powers, but is likely to lose at least three to a five-party opposition and the DUNF.

## COLUMN 10001

### Mother faces 5,000-pound fine for crying baby

LONDON (AFP) — A young mother in Cannock, northern England, has been warned by the city to stop her teething baby's crying or face a £5,000 (\$7,600) fine. The city council, after receiving numerous complaints that Jackie Whitehouse's eight-month-old daughter Zoe was waking her neighbours early in the morning, told the woman she would have to silence the child. "I'm disgusted with my neighbours for reporting me like this and with the council," said Mrs. Whitehouse, 24, who has one other child. "I try to do my best to soothe Zoe, but any mum will tell you it's the hardest job in the world." Neighbours complain that Zoe has been waking them with her crying at 5 a.m. for several months. A city council spokesman, asked about the warning, said the council was performing its "duty" in investigating "nuisance" complaints.

### Woman persuades rapist to wear condom

CAPE TOWN (AFP) — A Cape Town woman who woke up to find a masked assailant in her bedroom persuaded the man to wear a condom before he raped her, police said Friday. Police said the man gained access to the woman's bedroom early Thursday, where she and her baby were sleeping. He demanded money, and then said he was going to rape her. She persuaded her assailant to wear a condom, which she provided, before he raped her, police said.

### Practical joke on honeymooners costs \$44,000

NUREMBERG, Germany (AFP) — A practical joke played on a pair of newlyweds turned their apartment into a flaming wreck, put them in a state of shock and obliged them to begin married life by moving in with their in-laws. The couple returned from honeymoon to find that the wedding guests had stuffed their bathroom with pieces of paper and tissue, with the pile crammed right up to the ceiling. Nuremberg Police said, "The bridegroom turned on the light, and the heat from the bulb set fire to the paper. The resulting blaze engulfed their home, causing damage of 70,000 marks (\$44,000)."

### Television sex channel loses U.K. court bid

LONDON (R) — The owners of sex satellite channel Red Hot Television failed Friday in a high court bid to block a government decision to stop viewers from seeing its programmes in Britain. Two judges ruled that the European Court of Justice should be asked to decide whether the government acted lawfully in ordering a ban on the sale of signal decoders needed to receive the hardcore programmes beamed from Denmark. But the court refused to grant an injunction preventing the order from taking effect pending the European Court's decision, pointing to arguments by the government that Red Hot Television's programmes could harm children. Red Hot Television's Dutch-based parent company Continental Television BVIO and English marketing arm Continental Television PLC said they would appeal. Sales of decoders for the satellite signals soared when the government said last month it would ban them. It remains legal to use an existing unscrambled

### Colombian girl so hungry she gnawed hands — officials

SANTAFE DE BOGOTA (AFP) — A severely malnourished girl was found with injuries to her hands indicating she may have become so hungry that she had gnawed them, Colombian authorities said. Mary Leones, 5, was found tied to a chair and locked in a ramshackle home while her mother washed clothes for local families in Soledad, near the Atlantic Coast, the daily El Heraldo reported Friday. "In these cruel conditions, the girl had no other choice but to eat her own hands she wouldn't die of hunger," an official said. The girl, who lived alone with her mother, was unresponsive and appeared to be mentally retarded, child protection authorities said. The mother, 35-year-old Clarivel Leones, said she tied the girl "so she wouldn't bother me and would let me work."

## Autopsies to start on U.S. cult bodies

WACO, Texas (R) — Autopsies on 43 bodies removed from a religious cult compound set ablaze during an assault by security forces was expected to start Saturday. But identification will be a drawn-out process because of the extensive heat damage, the medical examiner said.

At least four newly-discovered bodies were spotted inside a concrete bunker that withstood the blaze, but the one million rounds of live ammunition inside made removal too dangerous for now. Tarrant County Medical Examiner Nazim Peerwani told reporters Friday.

The autopsy on one body removed Monday from the edge of the site determined that the remains were of a man in his 50s who died of smoke inhalation and secondary burns.

"We are uncovering more

bodies than we expected," Rodney Crow, a dentist with the medical examiner's office told reporters. "When we uncover bodies, there seems to be another one under that."

Mr. Crow said dental information on the cult's leader David Koresh should be enough to identify his body if it is among those removed.

A 51-day standoff ended Monday when federal agents assaulted the compound using tanks and tear gas. The attempt to flush out Mr. Koresh and his followers ended in the death of up to 86 people, 17 of them believed to have been children.

ABC News reported Friday that investigators are convinced the blaze resulted from arson. The television network quoted arson experts as saying they believe three fires were lit at the

same time.

Lawyers representing surviving cult members have claimed the fire started when an FBI tank accidentally knocked over a lantern.

The remains of the last four cult members removed Friday were of three women and a child aged three or four, Mr. Crow said.

Mr. Peerwani said investigators had found no evidence yet to support Justice Department suggestions that some of the bodies has gunshot wounds which might suggest murder or suicide.

The remains are so fragile, some parts little more than powder, that medical examiners will have to rely on medical and dental records to identify the bodies, or perhaps the odd piece of jewelry that may have withstood the heat of the blaze.

## Clinton likes his first 100 days overall

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Bill Clinton acknowledged that he underestimated the power of Republicans who killed his jobs bill but gave himself good marks overall Friday for his first 100 days in office.

"We are moving in the right direction," he told a White House news conference.

Smarting from the Republican filibuster that effectively killed his jobs bill in the Senate, Mr. Clinton conceded, "I did not have an adequate strategy to deal with that."

Overall, though, Mr. Clinton said, "it's amazing how much has been done" in the opening days of his presidency. He cited swift congressional passage of a \$500 billion deficit-reduction plan, his adoption of an environmental policy "dramatically different" from the Reagan-Bush era, and

his proposals for tough voluntary standards for schools. He also noted work on health care, welfare reform, political finance and lobbying reform plans.

"More will be done," he promised at his second full-dress news conference since taking office.

Questions about the bloodshed in Bosnia arose throughout the 48-minute session, and Mr. Clinton said he was within days of announcing tougher action against Serb aggressors in the former Yugoslavia.

The news conference ended a difficult week in Mr. Clinton's presidency, including the fiery deaths that ended the 51-day siege of an armed cult in Waco, Texas, the failure of his jobs bill, and uncertainty about how to stop the bloodshed in Bosnia.

"I spent a year here this week," Mr. Clinton joked later at

a reception. The jobs bill — including money for hiring 700,000 teens for summer work — died at the hand of unyielding and united Republicans in the Senate. Acknowledging that he misread the Republicans, Mr. Clinton said he was exploring what he could have done differently.

Mr. Clinton defended the administration's handling of the standoff with followers of cult leader David Koresh in Waco, saying he did not think that he, as president, should be involved in the planning for dealing with situations like that.

"The questions will be asked and answered: Did all of us up the line of command ask the questions we should have asked and get the answers we should have gotten? And I look forward to that."

### China, U.K. end first round of talks

PEKING (R) — China and Britain ended their first round of talks on Hong Kong's political future Saturday and agreed to hold a second round on April 28 and 29, the British embassy said. The brief statement, also issued by the Chinese Foreign Ministry, gave no details of progress in the talks, designed to end a six-month-old row. A British embassy spokeswoman declined to characterise the first round of talks, which began Thursday. Both sides have kept a diplomatic silence over the negotiations.

### S. African journalist found dead

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A black South African television reporter was found dead one day after he and his white cameraman were attacked by youths in Sharpeville township south of the city, police said Saturday. He has been hacked to death. South African Broadcasting Corporation journalist Calvin Thiso, who went missing shortly after he and his colleague Dudley Saunders were attacked by about 20 youths, was found in the outskirts of the township. Saunders, the cameraman, was wounded in the head, back and arm and was suffering from concussion. A police patrol saved him after the youths surrounded the television crew's car. He could not say what had happened to Thiso. The crew was in Sharpeville to report on desecration of black graves by white right-wing extremists.

### 3 killed in Chechenia clash

MOSCOW (AFP) — Supporters of Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev lobbed a handgrenade in their battle to dislodge the sacked interior minister from his offices, wounding three people, Interfax agency reported Saturday. But the president's militia failed to install the new minister, whom Mr. Dudayev appointed last weekend after dismissing the government and the parliament of this Caucasian state, Interfax said. General Dudayev simultaneously imposed a curfew in the capital, Grozny, and accused the security forces of failing to maintain law and order. Tension has reported to be high in Grozny, with demonstrations by supporters of both parliament and the president.

### Akihito briefed on war tragedy

NAHA, Japan (AFP) — The local governor reminded Japan's Emperor Akihito of the tragedy of World War II Saturday during an unprecedented visit to Okinawa, the southernmost prefecture of his country. "Okinawa was the only site of ground battle in Japan in the last war. The battle cost not only numerous lives but also a lot of cultural assets," officials quoted Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota as telling the emperor. Mr. Ota stressed at the brief meeting in the prefectural government building that the war experience must not be forgotten and should be passed on to coming generations, in the interest of world peace. Emperor Akihito, the first reigning Japanese emperor to visit Okinawa, an island prefecture in the East China about 1,600 kilometres south of Tokyo, was described as listening carefully to the governor's words.

### Baird named to U.S. intelligence board

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton has named Zoe Baird, a prominent attorney without experience on intelligence matters, to an intelligence advisory board because "she's competent and qualified," the White House said Friday. Ms. Baird, a corporate lawyer, will serve on the president's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, a 12-member panel headed by retired Adm. William J. Crowe, said White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers. The position does not require Senate confirmation.

### Clinton chooses NATO ambassador

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton said he will nominate Robert Hunter, a specialist in European affairs, to be U.S. ambassador to NATO. Mr. Clinton also announced he will nominate Robert Nordhaus to be general counsel at the Energy Department and Bruce Lehman to be assistant secretary of commerce and commissioner of patents and trademarks. Mr. Hunter is vice president for international politics and director of European studies at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, which is a foreign-policy think tank. Mr. Nordhaus is an attorney specialising in federal natural gas and utility regulation and onetime general counsel to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission during the Carter administration.

### Nobel Prize amount raised

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The Swedish value of the Nobel Prizes, the world's richest awards, was raised by 3 per cent Friday, to 6.7 million kronor each. But they are still worth less than last year in dollars, because of the krona's devaluation. The prize value as of Friday was the equivalent of \$919,000. That is \$62,000 less than the prizes for literature, peace, chemistry, physics, medicine or physiology, and economics were worth when they were last handed out, on Dec. 10, 1992. At that time, they were worth 6.5 million kronor (\$973,000). The Nobel Foundation, which funds the prizes, and oversees their distribution in Norway and Sweden, elected a new chairman Friday, Bengt I. Samuelson, a 1982 winner of the Nobel Prize in Physiology, will join the board on May 1 and become its chairman. He is president of the Karolinska Institute, which chooses the physiology or medicine prize winner.

### 4 die in Italian chemical plant leak

ROME (R) — Three workers and an ambulance man were killed by a poison gas leak at a chemical plant in northern Italy, police said Saturday. The accident occurred Friday evening at the Veneta Miniraria Spa plant which produces sulphuric acid in the town of Caravaggio, east of Milan. Rescue volunteers Egidio Bottazzoli, 21, collapsed and died as he rushed from his ambulance to help a worker who was lying on the ground, apparently lifeless. Mr. Bottazzoli was not wearing a gas mask. Another colleague, who had also got out of the ambulance, managed to crawl back and sound the alarm.